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BOGACHEV ON 'RUMORS' OF U.S. ARMS TALKS COMPROMISE

LD260150 Moscow TASS in English 2023 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 25 TASS -- TASS military news analyst Vladimir Bogachev writes:

Reports appeared in recent weeks in the U.S. and West European press, alleging that the U.S. Administration now regards its unrealistic "zero option" only as a starting point, and that Washington may well table other "interim options".

General B. Rogers, NATO's supreme allied commander in Europe, even proposed a temporary "modification of the zero option". Under the proposal, the USA will have the right to deploy in Western Europe fewer medium-range missiles than the earlier planned 572 missiles, while the Soviet Union will be allowed to keep a certain quantity of its own.

Rogers specified that in any event the U.S. missiles deployed must include "Pershing-2" missiles known to be capable of reaching targets in the Soviet and other socialist countries' territory in fewer than 6 minutes.

The idea is, thus, still that the Soviet Union should agree to a radical shift in the existing nuclear forces balance in Europe.

In the final analysis all these "creeping", "interim" and "tentative" U.S. variants boil down to the same old goal: To get the new U.S. nuclear missiles into Western Europe by hook or by crook.

The NATO countries still operate with an eye on achieving a military edge in Europe and a radical tilt in the strategic situation on the continent in their favour.

No qualitatively new variants, compared with Reagan's "zero option" are proposed by the United States. No shift toward greater realism is discernible in Washington's position.

Washington-inspired rumours about the U.S. alleged readiness to compromise at the Geneva talks amount to nothing else except rumours. They only serve to show that it is becoming increasingly difficult for Washington to defend the U.S. obstructionist position at the Geneva talks before the world public opinion.

GROMYKO CITED ON OBSTACLES TO ARMS TALKS

LD272333 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 27 Feb 83

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by PRAVDA political observer Vsevolod Ovchinnikov]

[Text] This week PRAVDA published an interview given by Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko to one of the newspaper's correspondents. His answers convincingly compared or, to be more precise, contrasted the Soviet policy of trying to eliminate the threat of nuclear war with the attempts of the United States to wreck the balance of forces which has come about. They set forth the obstacles confronting the Geneva talks on strategic weapons and also those on nuclear weapons in Europe. In both cases Washington is trying to achieve one and the same thing -- military superiority. It proposes zero to us, but at the same time wants to maintain everything it has. As yet there has been no progress towards realism in the arguments of Western politicians on this theme; those in Western Europe who support the zero option in essence also favor the deployment of new U.S. missiles. This would most definitely create a qualitatively different situation and undermine the basis for talks on nuclear weapons.

BEGLOV CRITICIZES U.S. ARMS POLICY, TALKS STANCE

LD251458 Moscow World Service in English 2100 GMT 24 Feb 83

[Spartak Beglov commentary]

[Text] The commentary is by Spartak Beglov of the NOVOSTI PRESS AGENCY, and this is what he writes:

The American Administration is all set on an arms buildup. In the 2 years he has been in office President Reagan has increased spending for arms purchases, that is the sum to acquire new weapon systems, fivefold. According to Assistant Under Secretary of Defense Willian Long it exceedingly hard to annul the program that has been endorsed. And this means that the military process has got out of hand, that the government can't control it any longer, the jinn is out of the bottle.

Mr Adelman, the putative head of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, has described this governemnt talk as sham, so it appears that the United States has to go in for sham talk just to placate public opinion at home and abroad in Europe. American politicians ignore the sentiments of the American and West Europeans countries who are voicing every stronger opposition to the nuclear war threat. The American Administration is leaning over backwards in a bid to win support for its foreign policy platform and military strategy.

With reference to Western Europe, this means that the NATO countries should confirm their consent to deployment of American nuclear missiles. This pressure concurs with the electroral reform in the Federal Republic of Germany, so in actual fact the United States is intefering in the affairs of another country with a view of conditioning the voters' minds. Not so long ago, at the final leg of his West Euriopean tour, Vice President Bush spoke in this vein: Give us serious proposals of the Russians and we shall consider them. Of course, this was a tongue in cheek statement, because he pretended there were no proposals of this kind. In actual fact, however, the Soviet Union has advanced a whole package of proposals for disarmament, both for nuclear and conventional weaponry. This country offers various options. In his interview for the national daily PRAVDA on Thursday, the Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko again explained the essence of the Soviet proposals and he gave specific figures. The proposals proceed from the principle of equality and equal security. And it is through negotiations that any controversial issues can be solved, and if one side will not give its answer to proposals of the other side, this signifies it does not desire a constructive solution.

WEINBERGER REMARKS ON NUCLEAR FREEZE MOVEMENT HIT

LD261418 Moscow TASS in English 1138 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] Washington February 26 TASS -- Speaking on Friday in the Pentagon, at a meeting of one of the branches of the ultraright organisation "the American Legion" U.S. Defence Secretary Weinberger said that the movement for the freezing of nuclear arsenals which assumed a broad scope in the United States contradicts allegedly the United States aims and lessens the chances of attaining agreements on arms control.

The sally of the defence secretary is a part of the campaign aimed at undermining the movement for the freezing of nuclear arsenals. The Department of Justice on Thursday imposed a ban on the shows in the United States of a Canadian documentary film entitled "If You Love This Planet". The film expresses a strong protest against the nuclear arms race which is stepped up by the Reagan administration. The present tenant of the White House himself came out many times with groundless accusations against the leaders of the movement whom he regards as all but "foreign agents" and the powerful anti-war movement they had as having Moscow behind it.

FURTHER REPORT ON REAGAN DISARMAMENT STATEMENT

PM181153 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Feb 83 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "In Former Positions"]

[Excerpt] Washington, 17 Feb -- A routine press conference given here by President R. Reagan has shown once again that in matters of arms control, and above all the deployment of American medium-range missiles in West Europe, the U.S. Administration continues to adhere to its former position, which poses a very grave threat to peace not only in Europe but also throughout the world. Thus, Reagan emphasized that the United States still insists on the "zero option," which, as is known, provides for the Soviet Union's unilateral disarmament while preserving the American "forward-based" nuclear forces in Europe, as well as the nuclear potential of its NATO allies.

Plainly trying to mislead the American and international public, Reagan alleged that the United States is ready to discuss any "legitimate proposal" in this sphere but that "no proposal has yet been made which it would be expedient to study or discuss."

In this connection the President was reminded that Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has already made a proposal which, as is known, provides for the Soviet Union to reduce its medium-range missiles, including the most sophisticated, by hundreds to the level of the U.S. NATO allies Britain and France. It was also pointed out to him that the administration's "zero option" has created a deadlock at the Soviet-American talks on limiting nuclear arms in Europe and that even the U.S. allies in West Europe advocate the elaboration of a new proposal which would ensure progress in Geneva. "Does it not seem to you that it is up to you, that you should do something?" the President was asked. But Reagan essentially avoided answering, declaring that the United States does not intend to depart from the stand it has taken.

At the same time Reagan's statements betrayed Washington's concern over the strong and growing movement in West Europe against the deployment of new American nuclear missiles. He said, in particular, that from the U.S. viewpoint "it would be terrible" if one of its allies refused to support the deployment of American missiles. Here he committed gross interference in the FRG's internal affairs by declaring that, if the election due to be held there early in March results in the accession to power of a new government which rejects the deployment of American nuclear missiles on its territory, this would be a "terrible blow to the cause of peace and disarmament."

DISARMAMENT COMMITTEE STUDIES CHEMICAL WEAPONS USE

LD260100 Moscow TASS in English 2229 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Geneva February 26 TASS -- The final document of a recent international symposium in the city of Ho Chi Minh on the problems of studying the consequences of the use by the U.S. Army of toxic agents in Vietnam, has been officially circulated in the Committee on Disarmament now in session here. The U.S. military used in Vietnam about 100 thousand tons of chemical and toxic agents crippling tens of thousands of people. The consequences of the massive use of chemical weapons in Vietnam for the present and future generations can, by their scale, only be compared with the tragedies of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

In drawing the attention to these horrifying facts, the delegations of the socialist countries in the Committee on Disarmament are consistently calling for strengthening the regime of the non-use of chemical weapons, for eliminating any "loopholes" like the one the USA has left for itself in ratifying the Geneva protocol in 1975. As is known, in adhering -- after waiting for fifty years -- to the protocol, Washington has reserved itself the right to use some toxic agents both for police and some military uses.

In his statement, the head of the Soviet delegation U. Israelyan stressed that the problem of banning chemical weapons occupies one of the central places in resolving the historic task of ending the arms race and reducing the war threat. The Warsaw Treaty member-states, he said, in their recent Political Declaration in Prague called on all states to give a fresh impulse to negotiations, including those within the framework of the Committee on Disarmament, with a view to speeding up elaboration of an international convention on banning and eliminating chemical weapons.

Having carefully examined all the circumstances connected with the question of banning the use of chemical weapons and guided by the desire to speed up the development of an international convention to ban and destroy such weapons, the Soviet delegation agreed with the proposal of a number of nonaligned and neutral states members of the Committee on Disarmament to include in the would-be convention provisions prohibiting the use of chemical weapons.

The new constructive step of the USSR received a wide response. The delegations of Argentina, Mexico, Peru and of a number of other states noted the timeliness and importance of Soviet initiatives. Indonesia's Ambassador Sutresna, and Afula Abuge (Kenya) described it as a substantive contribution to the process begun by the draft "basis provisions of the convention on banning chemical weapons" tabled in June 1982 at the second special session of the U.N. General Assembly on disarmament. The constructive nature of the Soviet proposal was also noted by some of the Western delegations, including those of Belgium and Australia.

The GDR representative H. Goerder pointed out that the plans afoot in the United States to produce, give to the Army and eventually to deploy in other countries a new generation of chemical weapons -- binary weapons -- pose serious difficulties at talks to ban them since they inevitably lead to a stepped up arms race. He recalled the readiness of the Warsaw Treaty member-states to study, together with other states concerned, all the possible ways and means to rid the continent of Europe of chemical weapons.

The representative of the FGR in whose territory, as is known, there are storage facilities for keeping U.S. chemical weapons asserted that the establishment in Europe of a zone free from chemical weapons is allegedly not conducive to comprehensive ban of these weapons of mass annihilation.

START DELEGATIONS MEET IN GENEVA 1 MAR

LD011117 Moscow TASS in English 1107 GMT 1 Mar 83

[Text] Geneva March 1 TASS -- The delegations from the Soviet Union and the United States at the talks on the limitation and reduction of strategic armaments helf a plenary meeting here today.

COMMENTARIES ON UPCOMING NONALIGNED CONFERENCE

Issue of 'Equidistance' Hit

LD281507 Moscow TASS in English 1350 GMT 28 Feb 83

["To Serve the Cause of Peace" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow February 28 TASS -- By TASS political news analyst Boris Shabayev:

American Admiral Mahan claimed early this century that control over the Indian Ocean may ensure domination over the entire world. Placing at the foundation of its policy aspiration towards hegemony, the Reagan administration could not, of course, disregard this thesis and zealously started its implementation.

A sinister chain of hundreds of Pentagon bases has spread from the Republic of South Africa to South Korea, Japan and Australia via Diego Garcia island usurped from Mauritius. About 300,000 American servicemen of all arms of services are stationed on them. More than 20 U.S. warships, including two nuclear aircraft carriers, are constantly deployed in the Indian Ocean. The commander of the interventionist Rapid Deployment Forces. General Kingston, declares with utter impudence that units under his command have the "undeniable right" to carry out American military operations in the Persian Gulf area and South East Asia.

Of grave concern to the countries of Asia, which do not forget the lessons of World War Two, is Washington's persistance in pushing Japan to the slippery road of rapid militarisation and turning it into a U.S. "unsinkable aircraft carrier".

The United States ruling circles are trying to justify all these preparations, harbouring a direct threat to peace, security and stability in Asia, by the trite lies about the "Soviet threat", stepping up a noisy slanderous campaign around the situation in Afghanistan, Kampuchea or the Horn of Africa. Washington is trying to portray even the gruesome crimes by its "strategic ally" in the Middle East, Israel, as "side-effects" of some kind of opposition to the mythical "Soviet threat".

These are futile attempts, for the world public knows too well who systematically thwarts all the efforts by the peace-loving nations to consolidate peace and security in Asia, assert there an atmosphere of trust and genuine goodneighbourly relations. None other than Washington torpedoed the convocation in 1981 of a conference in Colombo on the question of turning the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace, and continues to hamper the work of the U.N. ad hoc committee on the Indian Ocean in order to prevent the convocation of the conference this year. This American diplomacy, resorting to most sordid intrigues and provocations, is opposed to constructive initiatives of the governments of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the countries of Indochina, while the CIA and the Pentagon escalate arms and equipment deliveries to the gangs of Afghan and Pol Pot cutthroats, heightening tension around Afghanistan and Southeast Asia. Proposals repeatedly advanced by the Soviet Union in the name of improving the situation and consolidating security in the Asian continent also encounter a negative stand of the U.S. ruling circles.

Such are the facts. Nevertheless, contrary to reality, some are trying to put the USSR on the same level with the United States, and place on the Soviet Union "equal responsibility" for the heightening of world tensions and enhanced threat of war. A thesis is being advanced on this, so to say, "ground", about some "equidistance" which nonaligned countries should observe with regard to the two "superpowers".

Such attempts, no matter from what quarters they might come, cannot be assessed otherwise but as the aspiration to deprive the Non-Aligned Movement of its meaning and its objective foundation on which it emerged and has been successfully developing for more than twenty years.

This movement, born on the ruins of the colonial system, objectively embodies the necessity to offer resistance to the attempts by international imperialism to preserve in a somewhat renovated form its economic, political and military positions in developing countries. Anti-imperialism and anti-racism, the India.. prime minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, stresses, are the main foundations of that movement. One of the criteria of membership in the movement is that an interested country should persistently back the struggle for peoples' freedom.

It is wrong to portray non-alignment as a passive policy of 'equidistance' from the super powers, Mrs Indira Gandhi said. It provides for the use of any opportunity to serve the cause of peace and clearly state one's opinion on questions with regard to which we hold a firm position.

In the present-day conditions, when the U.S. ruling circles and some most bellicose of its allies in the NATO openly declare their aspiration to impose on the whole world, and first of all developing countries, their orders and attain their goals without stopping at direct intervention and acts of genocide, active resistance to the imperialist policy of the arms race and heightening of tension, purposeful struggle for disarmament and peace throughout the world become, as never before, a decisive front of the struggle for freedom and independence of peoples.

The Soviet Union, convinced that the policy of young nations may exert a favourable effect on the situation in the world, shows invariable respect to the Non-aligned Movement, favours its greater role in international relations, unity and cohesion of its ranks in the name of attaining lofty, noble ideals of freedom, peace and justice.

'Potent Force'

LD251600 Moscow World Service in English 2100 GMT 24 Feb 83

[Text] Preparations are drawing to a close in Delhi, the capital of India, for a sub-summit [as heard] conference of nonaligned nations. Commentary is by Vladimir Korolev.

It is hard nowadays to visualize international relations without the numerous groupings of countries cooperating in the Nonaligned Movement. The majority take an active stand on the issues of war and peace. They come out against the arms race and for disarmament. Peaceful coexistence has become the cornerstone principle for the movement. From the very start nonaligned countries have been proceeding from the fact that imperialism is the main enemy of the newly liberated nations and that a struggle against it is also a struggle for peace, for political and economic independence. Today this movement embraces all the 100 states in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Mostly these are nations that have liberated themselves from the colonial yoke.

Some European states are also involved in the movement. On the whole over 1,500 million people live in the nonaligned countries. The nonaligned movement is a potent force of modern times but at the same time it is not similar in its make-up. It includes countries different in their socio-economic patterns and taking different stand on a number of international issues. And it is this, that Washington and its allies are out to make use of, so as to weaken the Nonaligned Movement, change its anti-imperialist orientation and eventually bring to nought the movement's role in world politics. The United States and its Western allies, for example, are working away at widening the breach in the ranks of the Arab countries. They seek to undermine the prestige and influence of the organization of African unity and incite strife in the Nonaligned Movement.

With the nearing Delhi conference it becomes quite clear that Washington and its agents seek to employ their pet technique -- to divert the attention of the forthcoming forum from cardianl issues over specific points in which nonaligned countries may be divided. The fuss over the so-called Kampuchean problem is a graphic case in point. Here the target of speculations is who is going to represent Kampuchea at the conference.

The enemies of Kampuchea's independence and untrammelled development are going out of their way to get Prince Norodom Sihanouk at all hazards to the conference. Sihanouk acts in the name of a so-called coalition made up from the Khmer people's traitors with the Pol Poters playing first fiddle. But it is Pol Pot and his henchmen who massacred 3 million Kampucheans. The ruling quarters in the United States and those who toe their line are striving to employ all kinds of provocative activities, like the sort of issue of Kampuchea's representation as a pretext for undermining the unity of the nonaligned countries and poisoning the atmosphere of the Delhi conference.

Stance on U.S., USSR

LD282328 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 28 Feb 83

[Rafael Arutyunov commentary from the "Window on the Arab World" program]

[Text] The coming summit conference of nonaligned countries is regarded with great interest in the international press. This is obvious, because more than 90 countries of the world will be represented in it, and it will investigate the most pressing issues of the age. Imperialism is increasingly feeling the strength of this movement. That is probably why it is trying by every propaganda means to eliminate anti-imperialism from the Nonaligned Movement.

Is it not significant in this respect that in THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR article on 26 February by Walter Clemens, a professor at Boston University, the Nonaligned Movement is portrayed as made up of obvious lacking objective assessments of actual events?

The writer pointed out, for example, the U.S. mediation role in Lebanon, which benefits only Israel and called for an end to criticism of those who, according to the writer, try to find constructive solutions -- by that he clearly means American solutions. At the same time the American professor calls for firm neutrality, and calls on the non-aligned countries to abandon their stand, which does not look for or see any wrong in the Soviet Union.

What can we say in this respect? If we take just the Lebanese events, why should the nonaligned countries see wrong in the Soviet Union's stand if this wrong is nonexistent in actual fact? The nonaligend see and do not want to ignore the real wrong caused by Israel to Lebanon, the Palestinians and all the Arabs by means of American arms and political support. Is it not clear that the wrong here is done by the Untied States and not the Soviet Union? This wrongdoing by America is seen and strongly condemned by the Nonaligned Movement but Professor Clemens wants the nonaligned to equate the policy of the Soviet Union with the policy of the United States and to ignore the interests of their freedom, independence and the interest of peace in the world.

Naturally, this change in the Nonaligned Movement, if it happened, would be in the interest of American imperialism and not in the interest of the nonaligned countries.

Thus those countries do not want to regard their friends and enemies as equals, nor do they want to take up a middle position between clear wrong and justice.

West Capitalizes on Differences

LD281832 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 28 Feb 83

[From the Vremya newscast; commentary by political observer Boris Kalyagin]

[Text] Hello, comrades! Every forum of participants in the Nonaligned Movement is an event of great international significance. It provides new stimulus in the struggle of peoples against imperialism and neocolonialism and for the strengthening of national independence.

This promotes the popularity of the movement and a growth in the number of its members. Twenty-five states participated in the first conference of leaders of nonaligned countries, held in Belgrade in 1961, whereas delegations from 96 countries, with more than 1.5 billion inhabitants altogether, now intend to in the Indian capital. The majority of them are young states who have cast off the fetters of colonialism. Even now they feel the consequences of a colonial past. They are faced with similar problems of achieveing genuine economic and political independence.

However, we should also not leave out of account the fact that the movement encompasses countries with diverse political structures and social systems: from socialist republics to feudal monarchies. It is natural that there are differences of opinion on certain questions. The West tries to capitalize on this situation. It hopes to drive a wedge between the nonaligned countries, by artificially exaggerating the differences of opinion on particular regional problems in order to divert attention from fundamental global problems.

It is typical that whereas in Dulles' time, Washington called the very idea of nonalignment "amoral," the United States is now trying to worm its way into the confidence of the nonaligned countries and to prevent their rapprochement with the Soviet Union. The idea has begun to circulate that the movement ought to be equidistant from both the imperialist West and the socialist world. However, attempts to equate those who have oppressed for centuries and those who help in the liberation from alien domination are not meeting with success.

In her interview with the chief editor of the Delhi NATIONAL HERALD, Indira Gandhi, the prime minister of India, who is to be the chairman of the movement at its seventh conference, emphasized that the foundations of nonalignment remain anti-imperialism and antiracism. The head of the Indian Government indicated that the most pressing problems which face the conference are the relaxing of international tension, disarmament, the elimination of the last bastions of colonialism, and also the economic progress of the developing countries.

In these highly important problems, the Soviet Union and the nonaligned states adopt common or similar stances. Our country regards the nonaligned movement with respect. We consider that its peace-loving policy makes a useful contribution to international life.

PRAVDA HITS PROPOSALS FOR CLOSER EEC-NATO TIES

PM261053 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Feb 83 First Edition p 5

[V. Potapov article: "Despite the Treaty of Rome"]

[Text] The Europarliament, the representative body of the West European "Ten," has called on the EEC countries to move toward closer cooperation with NATO. During its January session in Strasbourg, it adopted a resolution which envisages "better coordination of consultations held within the framework of European political cooperation and the NATO council."

The adoption of such a document is in line with the intention of certain forces in the West to transform the group, which was formed for economic cooperation, into a kind of "subdivision" of the NATO bloc. On the one hand, Washington has long encouraged such an association. There is, however, another aspect to it.

The serious failures in the economic policy of the "Ten", which are caused by the general crisis in the capitalist system, have turned the EEC -- even in the opinion of its most active supporters -- from a "stimulator" of economic development into a conductor of such phenomena as unemployment, higher inflation, currency instability and higher balance of payments deficits. The verbal and ideological foundation on which the architects of the EEC tried to erect the edifice of a "united Europe" is shaking under the pressure of exacerbated problems.

Under these more complex conditions the supporters of the "European idea" are making efforts to revive the process of capitalist integration or, in their words, to initiate its "second generation." For this purpose some of them are threatening even the Treaty of Rome, the legal basis of the community, by hatching plans to replace it with a new statute which would place the stress no longer on the economic but on the political and military integration of the West European states.

This trend has already been reflected in the documents of certain political parties in EEC countries. The just published election program of the West German CDU, for example, speaks of an intention to create a European union "following its own foreign policy and security policy continuing to rely upon the Atlantic alliance." As a concrete step in this direction the CDU demands a considerable "expansion of the rights of the European Parliament." No wonder, especially since it has proved itself an active proponent and implementor of these intentions.

Since the transition to a direct system of electing members of the European Parliament, this body has increasingly frequently been claiming a role in determining a "unified" policy for the "Ten" and setting itself up in competition with national legislative bodies. However, the attempts by the community's supreme institutions to expand their powers by infringing the sovereign rights of the Common Market states, especially in the defense sphere, have met with sharp resistance from the public.

Thus a statement by the Irish campaign for nuclear disarmament reads: "The Treaty of Rome does not contain any articles about military cooperation. . . . By raising the question of rapprochement between the Common Market and NATO, the European Parliament is trying to effect a substantial amendment to the content and spirit of the treaty. The adoption of the resolution testifies to the community's crude disregard of Ireland's neutral status. If the EEC really intends to expand relations with NATO we must review the question of the country's membership in the Common Market."

No less definite statements in this connection have been also made by members of the European Parliament from the communist and socialist parties in France, a country outside the NATO military organization. The French Government, according to L'HUMANITE, considers that the resolution in question "goes far beyond the powers" of the EEC.

This illegal [protivopravnyy] act by the European Parliament has been described by several press organs as an attempt to draw the peoples of Western Europe, against their will, into the realization of Pentagon and NATO plans. This is a correct assessment of the activity of pro-Atlantic members of the Europarliament, no matter what "reasons" they may give to the West European public to justify their unseemly maneuvers. The overwhelming majority of West Europeans, as is shown by the successive demonstrations against new American missiles and NATO policy, want not the activation of military preparations and subordination of the EEC to them, but rather the strengthening of peace by real steps along the road of detente.

CSCE SPOKESMAN INTERVIEWED ON PROGRESS IN MADRID

LD272335 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 27 Feb 83

[From the "International Panaroma" program presented by PRAVDA political observer Vsevolod Ovchinnikov]

[Excerpts] Now a word about the Madrid meeting. As is known, it has dragged on. The representatives of 35 states have been meeting in Madrid for more than 2 years now, since November 1980. The Americans and some of their allies seem to have forgotten that it is participants in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe who have gathered in Madrid -- I repeat, on security and cooperation, for the very name of the forum is the embodiment of its chief aims.

However, Washington policos have spent all this time in being concerned not with how to strengthen security and set cooperation to rights but have been trying to install a spirit of confrontation and to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries. But those who look on the old world only as a potential theater of military operations are strangers to the aspirations of millions of Europeans to establish on the continent a climate of trust and to forge a path toward military detente.

Here is a report by Igor Kudrin from the Spanish capital on the current stage of the Madrid meeting:

[Begin recording] The third working week of the present stage of the meeting has come to an end. It is a long, difficult and tense meeting. This stage of the meeting began at a time when millions of people are experiencing the impression of the new peace proposals of the socialist countries. As is known, in the Prague Political Declaration the leaders of the socialist states gave a special place to a fruitful outcome to the Madrid meeting and to agreement being reached by a conference on confidence-building measures and security and disarmament in Europe. Such a conference corresponds with the interests of all the peoples of the continent.

The local press notes that difficulties in the work of the forum and pessimism have most often emanated from the U.S. delegation which at every stage has striven to transform the Madrid meeting into an instrument of cold war. And certain Western delegations which at every stage has striven to transform the Madrid meeting into an instrument of cold war. And certain Western delegations even today frequently try to sidetrack the meeting once again into fruitless discussions and into imposing proposals which they know to be unacceptable to other sides and to intefere in the affairs of sovereign states.

Some of the mass media in the West, including the local media here in Madrid, apparently led along by these diplomats, write mainly about the polemics, contradictions and disagreements and fail to remark upon the undoubted successes which have been achieved.

Moreover, the Spaniards themselves want the representatives of the various countries in the enormous Palace of Congresses to finally discover a common language and the interests of peace, detente, mutual understanding and cooperation to prevail over confrontation.

Speaking at the first plenary meeting since the forum resumed, Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran expressed the readiness of the socialist government to use every opportunity to further the successful conclusion of the forum. The minister spoke in favor of strengthening confidence-building measures which aid disarmament. The time has come, he stressed, for the participants in the meeting to move on from stating their positions to real dialogue.

For a long time now this has been what the delegation from our country has been aspiring toward. At all stages it has done great and complex work and has done great and complex work and has made extraordinary efforts directed at creating a businesslike atmosphere and an atmosphere of trust and mutual understanding. Soviet diplomats support all forms and methods of working which help bring successes nearer.

Only a few minutes remain before the start of another plenary meeting. I am speaking to Anatoliy Gavrilovich Kovalev, the head of the Soviet delegation and USSR deputy foreign minister.

Anatoliy Gavrilovich, in the corridors here there are two directly opposing opinions amongst the accredited journalists. Some are in an extremely optimistic mood and say that the climate has changed for the better at the meeting and others at the forum are just about giving it up as a lost cause. What is your opinion and what are your forecasts?

[Kovalev] First of all I would like in reply to this question to tell you that the Madrid forum is not taking place in a political vacuum.

The general development of the world as well as of the European situation has its effect on the atmosphere of the meeting and on the progress of affairs here.

Undoubtedly the major initiatives and proposals put forward by Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov and contained in the Prague Declaration of Warsaw Treaty States have had a positive influence on progress at the Madrid forum.

This is not a simple question. What forecasts can we make? Pessimistic ones or optimistic ones? I think that it would be a mistake if we were to base our forecasts on optimistic evaluations. But perhaps it would be no less but an even greater mistake if we began to make pessimistic forecasts. That is my answer, not a completely simple one, to your question which is not completely simple. In conclusion, I would like to stress that the line of the Soviet Union in relation to the Madrid meeting and at the Madrid meeting itself is clear, informed and constructive. It favors breathing new life into the policy of detente and concluding the Madrid meeting with substantial results.

[Kudrin] Thank you. Spring comes to Spain in the south of Europe earlier than it does to many other countries on the continent. And it would be desirable thing if the distrust and misunderstandings still existing among the participants in the Madrid meeting were to melt with the last icicles. It would be nice if the winds of the cold war departed forever along with the winter colds, unexpected in this part of Europe. Like millions of other people on the planet the Spaniards believe that all those taking part in the international forum which is taking place in their ancient and wonderful capital will show real political will. They have a great responsibility on their shoulders for the fate the world and security in Europe. [end recording]

Beglov Answers Questions

PM272015 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 13 Feb 83 p 3

["International Notes" by APN political observer Spartak Beglov: "European Security and the Madrid Meeting"]

[Text] The Madrid meeting of representatives from the 35 states which signed the 1975 Helsinki Agreement on European Security and Cooperation, which reconvened on 8 February in Madrid, has acquired a special significance in the current international situation. It is an understatement to say that people have had enough of waiting for results from this diplomatic conference, which has been going on for 2 and 1/4 years. It has become even more important to achieve positive results now, when East-West relations are at a crossroad. Under these conditions the successful completion of the meeting could help bring about a turning point in these relations in a favorable direction leading away from the precipice of nuclear war. The SELSKAYA ZHIZN Editorial Office has collected the most typical questions on the Madrid meeting from its readers, and I will try to answer them.

What does Europe especially need now as main area and focus of established East-West relations?

In the first place, to restore the priority of detente and cooperation over relations of interstate confrontation which, through Washington's efforts, have been shunted onto the rails of economic and psychological warfare in the material and cultural spheres.

Second, to reduce as much as possible the level of military confrontation, thus reducing the threat of war.

What can the Madrid meeting do about this?

Something which has been down on its agenda from the very beginning:

Adopt a final document on ways to implement the Helsinki accord between the 35 states, in other words a kind of minimum program for joint actions in the sphere of detente and cooperation;

Approve a mandate for a European disarmament conference (more precisely, a conference on measures to strengthen trust and security, as well as disarmament in Europe).

Is there a realistic basis for the adoption of such decisions (and thereby for the successful completion of the meeting) even before the spring?

Yes, It is clearly visible both in the draft final document prepared in detail by the European nonaligned countries and in the almost unanimous declaration by the participants in the meeting in support of the convening of a European disarmament conference.

So far, what has been the obstruction in adopting what, it seems, is within the reach of the 35 states?

First and foremost, the fact that the U.S. representatives lack a mandate for the successful completion of the meeting.

How can this obstructionist U.S. position be explained?

By the fact that all the interests of U.S. policy have been directed into a different sphere: the escalation of confrontation with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries.

What is the new element in the situation which inspires hope for a positive improvement in the West-East dialogue, including within the Madrid meeting framework?

The fact that European politics have been given the correct guidelines for approaching the solution of the problem of disarmament negotiations.

The necessary clarity has been provided in two directions:

First, the seriousness of the sides' approach to disarmament.

Second, the basis on which such disarmament can be fully realistic and attainable.

The point is that, faced with the Soviet Union's new proposals for a missile-free Europe (no Soviet and U.S. missiles opposing one another, before the achievement of "absolute zero" the USSR retains only as many missiles as the total of Britain's and France's missiles together). The U.S. intentions have not withstood the test of seriousness. Reagan's "zero option" (unilateral disarmament by the USSR under conditions of involability for all Western nuclear weapons in the European zone) has spent itself. The Soviet proposals have deflated it like a punctured balloon.

Vice-president Bush's arrival in West Europe with the unacceptable "zero option" in new packaging confirmed even more strongly the fear of West Europeans that the United States does not approach the disarmament problem seriously.

Thus, the new element in the situation is that in the face of the current general criticism of the U.S. position, the Reagan administration cannot but seek more realistic alternatives.

The most important characteristic of the change which has occurred in the mood of the public and of many realistically-minded politicians is also that they have been finally convinced not only of the futility but of the suicidal danger of imposing upon the socialist countries any sort of unilateral decisions in the spirit of nuclear blackmail.

At the same time, Europe has witnessed the truly boundless patience and determination of the USSR and the Warsaw Pact organization withwhich they have indicated the only alternative acceptable to all.

No one can any longer dispute the seriousness of the socialist countries' intentions. It is now the West's turn. It is duty bound to demonstrate whether it is capable of conducting a truly constructive dialogue on measures to save our continent from nuclear war. This will be shown at the Madrid sessions.

DISCORD WITHIN OPEC, PRICING PROBLEMS NOTED

LD250339 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1940 GMT 24 Feb 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Vladimir Dunayev]

[Text] The United States is now gloating over what is going on in the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, OPEC. This is how cartoonists are showing OPEC. [Camera shows TIME magazine cover showing OPEC sinking and caption: sinking in a sea of oil.] Sinking in a sea of oil is the caption accompanying the signature on this cartoon which TIME magazine carries on its cover. [Camera shows cartoon depicting the OPEC ship going over a waterfall.] The caption is: While the OPEC tanker is about to overturn, a meeting is being called on deck.

Unfortunately, these malicious cartoons are not far from the truth. This situation has resulted both because of objective reasons and because of intrigues by the enemies of OPEC, of whom there have always been enough, and also because of internal discord. Next week there is to be an emergency meeting of the organization, an emergency session of energy and oil ministers.

It is the very existence of OPEC that is at stake. The price of oil may be raised, it may be lowered. This depends on market conditions prevailing and the state of the economy in the capitalist world but it must be done in a coordinated way. That is how OPEC functioned, and it functioned successfully.

Recently, a difficult time for oil exporters it must be said bluntly, a number of countries have been trying to dictate their own conditions. Others are counting on getting out of the difficulties by themselves. At the meeting of five oil ministers in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, supported by Qatar, Kuwait, Iraq and the United Arab Emirates, essentially issued an ultimatum. If agreed lower oil prices are not confirmed next week, the Saudis and the countries supporting them in the Persian Gulf will set a price below the lowest price and will ruin almost any OPEC member by waging a trade war against it. That is now the position in OPEC to the joy of most Western politicians and businessmen.

The emergency OPEC conference is to take place in Geneva or Vienna -- the venue has not been chosen yet -- but evidently urgent consultations will be taking place in the next few days on this subject. It is difficult to overestimate the importance of that conference. This evening in Paris there is a meeting of the oil ministers of Venezuela, Mexico, Kuwait and Algeria, says a report just in. They had been in different places -- one was in the Near East and another was in Western Europe -- but by this time they should have all come together in Paris and should have started this emergency meeting. These unofficial talks will be held to fix a common, agreed oil price and to work out some sort of tactics at the forthcoming OPEC ministers emergency conference.

U.S. CAMPAIGN AGAINST LOS CONVENTION CITED

LD011118 Moscow TASS in English 1058 GMT 1 Mar 83

[Text] New York March 1 TASS -- The Reagan administration continues a subversive campaign directed against the reached international accords on the utilization of the world ocean expanses and resources. The campaign is aimed first of all at undermining the interests of the developing countries.

According to a report of the JOURNAL OF COMMERCE, the White House is preparing a number of unilateral steps in this direction in circumvention of the accords, accords of which the developing states are the main initiators.

One hundred and eighteen countries are known to have signed an international Law of the Sea Convention in December last year. The work on the convention continued for more than nine years. The document has for the first time established universal legal framework for regulated international cooperation on the seas and oceans in the interests of all states. However, the USA has not only declined to put its signature to the convention but also decided to undermine its effectiveness by every means available.

The convention envisages, in particular, the right of states to proclaim 200-mile coastal areas to be their "exclusive economic zones" under certain conditions and with respect for the interests of other states. The JOURNAL OF COMMERCE reports that Washington has prepared a draft proclamation on extending U.S. rights to the 200-mile coastal zone on the basis of its own rules in disregard for the international code.

The proclamation is not the only salvo which Washington fires at the convention. Its main blow is directed against that part of the document which provides for international control of the tapping of ocean-floor minerals. It was precisely this section of the document which was criticized by Edwin Meese, adviser to the President, in an article published recently in the newspaper THE NEW YORK TIMES. He made it clear that Washington will not tolerate any attempts by the community of nations at regulating U.S. access to strategic minerals in areas which are beyond national jurisdiction. Judging by the words of Meese, the Reagan administrations great power haughtiness is particularly affronted by the circumstance that, according to the convention, a great role in this is assigned to the young developing states.

According to Mr Curtis, spokesman of the Washington center for law and social policy, the Reagan administration has decided to make the Law of the Sea Convention yet another ideological battlefield. It is clear that the battle is being waged against the developing countries in whose actions the White House perceives a dangerous tendency towards "collectivism".

BRIEFS

SCIENTISTS TO ANTARCTICA -- Leningrad, February 23 -- TASS -- 50 scientists and specialists, members of the Soviet Antarctic expedition, today returned to Leningrad. They made a flight on board the IL-18D plane on the airlift 16 thousand kilometres long. The scientists have concluded another cycle of research on the "white continent" and were relieved by other researchers. Regular flights along the route Leningrad-Antarctica-Leningrad were started three years ago, after the world's first snow and ice airfield had been built at the Molodyozhnaya Station. A plane equipped for superlong flights now makes twice a year shuttle flights to the South Pole, promptly delivering equipment and bringing groups of scientists. This enabled Soviet researchers to prolong considerably the duration of scientific expeditions in the most convenient time of the south polar summer. The take-off and landing strips capable of handling heavy planes are now built at other Soviet observatories and stations. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 2022 GMT 23 Feb 83 LD]

PRAVDA QUOTES AMERICANS' LETTERS TO ANDROPOV

PM221201 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Feb 83 First Edition p 4

[G. Vasilyev article: "'Do Everything To Preserve Peace'; Americans' Letters to Yu. V. Andropov"]

[Text] Soviet foreign policy is principled and consistent. It remains as determined by the decisions of the 24th, 25th and 26th CPSU Congresses. Its immutable goals are to ensure lasting peace and to defend the peoples' right to independence and social progress. No matter how the West may try to bar the way to honest information about the USSR, the truth about Soviet policy is reaching millions of people in the capitalist countries, prompting a lively response in their hearts.

This is shown by the many letters from Americans that have arrived for Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The letters vary -- short ones of three or four lines and long ones resembling articles, typed or handwritten, sometimes in a childish, unconfident hand, sometimes in the firm hand of a mature person, sometimes in a shaky hand betraying the writer's advanced age. They are from workers and lawyers, housewives and farmers, schoolchildren and pensioners.

Concern for the Future

Many things interest, perturb and occupy the Americans. There are many things they would like to ask their addressee. But their main questions is the question of the fate of peace and the prospects for Soviet-American relations. The messages are full of concern at the state of international affairs and of awareness of the increased threat of nuclear war.

Here is a short, seven-line letter from the city of Des Moines, Iowa: "Dear Mr Andropov: My name is Laura (Kheydal). I live in the United States. I'm very worried by the rapid buildup of nuclear arms. I implore you to do everything in your power to reach agreement with my country before it's too late. I don't want to die."

A sheet of paper covered in close typescript. Joseph (Dubitski) of West Hartford, Connecticut, writes: "Dear General Secretary, I'd like to talk with you man to man. I think I deserve this privilege because I'm 82 years old and I've experienced a lot in my lifetime. Moreover, I'm a realist and I try to see things as they are....

"It seems to me that politicians' duty is to make life easier for us all. I mean that no one -- neither Soviet nor American citizen, neither man nor woman, neither child nor baby -- should live in fear of nuclear war and universal destruction. Don't you think that a meeting between you and our President would be a sensible step? In your first speech, Sir, you mentioned that you'd like a revival of detente and the restoration of good relations between our countries. Let's achieve that, let's live in peace! Please say that what you think of my proposals."

A color photograph shows a tanned middle-aged man and a pleasant-looking woman. The man is leaning on a wagon wheel of the kind that the great-grandchildren of those who went west, opening up the expanses of America, like to display outside the fences of their homes. (Nayil) Stansfield of Yuma, Colorado, is a farmer. "I grow corn and wheat and raise cattle," he reports. "My wife teaches in grade school right here in Yuma. My family has lived round here since 1886." After congratulating Yu. V. Andropov on his election to the post of general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, the American farmer goes on:

"I was very pleased by your remarks about peace and the need for joint work for the sake of that. I hope our countries -- the USSR and the United States -- will be able to coexist, maintaining friendly relations. It seems to me that we've got (the last word is underlined twice -- G.V.) to find the road to reason and to the peaceful resolution of our disagreements and to prevent the unleashing of war at all costs.

"I have three children aged 22, 20 and 17. I want them to live without fearing a nuclear catastrophe. Under conditions when mountains of weapons of mass destruction have been accumulated, we must display patience, balance and understanding of one another. Please, Yuriy, help us all in this world! Let peace continue to be the priority for you."

"I'm No Diplomat"

Different people, differing in age, profession and political convictions, wrote these letters. But they resemble one another in one respect: With rare exceptions, they are all well-intentioned, they want peace and improved relations between our countries and they are at a loss to understand why the insane arms race, which can lead only to disaster, is continuing. You cannot help thinking how much more sensible and farsighted the ordinary people of America are than those Washington figures holding high posts whose class hatred of socialism prevails over their sense of reality and simply over common sense.

"I have no connection with politics and I don't regard myself as a diplomat," Paul Knox of Artesia, New Mexico, writes, "I'm simply a worried inhabitant of planet Earth who'd like world peace to prevail in my lifetime. I'm sure that if representatives of my government read this letter to you they'd decide I'm a traitor. But I'm not a traitor. I just want you to know what people in my country think. First of all, I'd like to inform you that a majority in my country doesn't want the creation of the MX missile, and if you asked what the majority does want, you'd hear: 'We want the elimination of all types of nuclear weapons....' We have enough economic and other domestic problems without preparation for war. We could spend that money on education, medical services and solving the energy problem...."

(S. Khofberg) of San Diego, California, writes: "Dear Comrade Andropov: As a veteran of World War II, I am well aware of the sufferings and difficulties the Soviet people experienced in repelling the invasion of the Nazi bandits. I have no doubt that Soviet people do not want war, still less the nuclear nightmare. I'm sure that the majority of Americans feel the same. They graphically demonstrated that during the mid-term elections in our country, when millions of people voted for a freeze on nuclear arms. I wish you personally and the entire Soviet people a happy New Year and new successes in building a communist society. Peace and friendship."

Here's a letter from Sally d'Allessandro of Farmington, Connecticut: "Dear General Secretary Andropov: I'm writing you this letter so you know I want our world to be a safe place for people to live. For that we must reduce and then prohibit all nuclear arms. I want to remind you of Victor Hugo's words: 'There is nothing mightier than an idea whose time has come.' The time has indeed come."

Yes, today there is no mightier and more imperative idea than the idea of peace.

The letters to Yu.V. Andropov contain many pieces of advice, wishes and proposals with a view to helping preserve peace and dispel the stormclouds of the threat of war. By no means all these proposals are practical. But the sincerity of the people who voice them is not to be doubted.

Joe Duval of Oakland, California, proposes a "simple plan" for universal disarmament: The United States and the USSR pledge to reduce their nuclear arsenals by 1 percent each month, as a result of which the two powers would be left with not a single nuclear bomb or missile with a nuclear warhead within less than 10 years. Myron (Torn) of Las Vegas believes that the leaders of the Soviet Union and the United States should immediately sign a joint program of "defense partnership and mutual economic assistance." "Of course, it will be difficult to do this," he admits, "but on the other hand how grateful all the people on Earth will be."

For An Arms Freeze

Noting that approximate equality exists at the present time between the military forces of the USSR and the United States and the Warsaw Pact and NATO, the writers of many letters believe that the most reliable way of consolidating international security is serious, businesslike talks between the two countries aimed at limiting and then reducing armaments. Lawyer Robert Caravelli of Kokomo, Indiana, John Struass of Bayside, New York, and the congregation of the United Methodist Church in the city of Wilmington, North Carolina, write of this. The congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tacoma, Washington, call on the USSR and U.S. leaders to ensure that 1983 is a breakthrough in efforts to curb the arms race.

Caroline Brent of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, Phyliss (?Khann) of Polo, Illinois, (Darrel ?Inpi) of Santa Cruz, California, the congregation of the Central United Presbyterian Church in Phoenix, Arizona, schoolchildren of the city of Rogers, Arkansas, and many others write of the movement in America for a freeze on U.S. and USSR nuclear arsenals. "We're writing to tell you," Harriet (Irbi) of Arlington, Texas, declares "that we're in favor of a freeze on the production and deployment of nuclear arms. The freeze must be worldwide. It's impossible to win a nuclear war."

As you read the letters you seem to hear the echo of the millions of voices that have rung out at the mass demonstrations by peace supporters in the United States and that were cast in the recent elections in America for petitions demanding a freeze on the two powers' nuclear arms. But with regret you discover something else too: Many Americans do not know that the Soviet Union is persistently proposing a freeze on both sides' strategic arsenals as the first step toward a future agreement on their reduction. A smokescreen of disinformation has concealed from them the truth, which is that, were it not for Washington's obstructionist stance on this issue, a freeze could have become a reality long ago.

It is scarcely surprising that the writers of some letters have an incorrect idea of the reasons for the current exacerbation of international tension and have a distorted view of the world in general. The anticommunist indoctrination to which Americans are subjected makes itself felt. Some of them believe, for instance, that the culprit behind the arms race is the Soviet Union which is implementing "an unjustified arms buildup." Others, in advocating the normalization of relations between the two countries, advance preliminary conditions like the "Washington hawks" -- they demand a change in the internal setup in the socialist countries, no less.

The reasons for this lack of realism and objectivity, to put it mildly, are not hard to see. Americans are subjected to daily and hourly propaganda "bombardment" by the apologists of the military-industrial complex -- to "brainwashing," as people in this country put it. Under these conditions what is surprising is not that the letters received from across the ocean sometimes show traces of this "dirty" work by the sowers of enmity and tension, but the extent to which the thoughts of sensible people worried over the fate of peace prevail in this mail.

As you read the letters you see for yourself that, despite all the obstacles, our country's peace initiatives are getting through to broad circles of the public in the West and that there are many people even in the United States who know the content of the Soviet peace proposals.

"If Marx Were Alive..."

"Dear Mr Andropov," Elizabeth (Lamson) writes from Seattle, Washington state. "Your New Year greetings to the U.S. people were extremely timely for our country, where fears are so strong over the war preparations and possible military confrontation.... cooperation, trust and goodwill are needed now more than ever before. And we can achieve this despite the difference between our systems."

A letter from (Dzh.R. Mendzheri) from Oklahoma City:

"Dear General Secretary:

"I as a mother, want to take this opportunity to express to you my deep thanks for your country's proposal at the recent UN General Assembly's special session on disarmament which states that there is no type of weapon which the Soviet Union would not be prepared to limit or ban on a reciprocal basis....

"Without arms and armies there can be no wars. As I understand it, the ideas and ideology of Marx and Marxism are supremely humane since they place to the fore the maximum satisfaction of the needs of one and all for peace. If Marx were alive today I have no doubt he would be the first to suggest putting an end to the destructive wars and weapons of mass destruction and would ban all armaments so that people could live in an atmosphere of peace, without fear, and working for universal prosperity."

"On 21 December 1982," the student Eric (Stillel) from Eugene, Oregon, writes to Yu.V. Andropov, "You made several bold proposals to the United States in the peace initiatives you made during your speech in the Kremlin on the 60th anniversary of the USSR. On behalf of all peace-loving people I would like to express to you my sincere approval and admiration.

"As a deeply patriotic American and as a man of conservative political views who once idolized President Ronald Reagan I would like to be able to say that I am as proud of my government as I am of your initiative. Unfortunately I cannot do so. President Reagan's 'zero option' and his plans to deploy hundreds of new Pershing II and cruise missiles in West Europe run counter to political and diplomatic sanity.

"I regard your proposal to reduce the number of medium-range Soviet missiles to the level of the missiles possessed by Britain and France as an honest start on the path which could lead to the successful conclusion of a disarmament agreement between East and West. To complement this the United States and all West European countries must immediately agree with your proposal on renouncing first use of nuclear weapon....

"During the recent elections millions of Americans voted for a nuclear arms freeze. The peoples of the world are saying: 'Enough:' Now that you have made your proposals, it is up to the U.S. leaders."

Americans are pondering and comparing the actions of governments and political leaders. And those of them who have retained their independence and have not succumbed to the imperialist hawks' propaganda indoctrination are concluding that the USSR's initiatives accord with the interests of the peoples of the world, including the U.S. people, and that Washington's present foreign policy course jeopardizes these interests. Among the letters received there are many whose authors voice their condemnation of the Reagan administration's aggressive course of confrontation.

Thus Charles (Kolin) from Berkeley, California believes that the leaders of the U.S. Administration are distinguished by their recklessness. "Fortunately," he adds, "they are rapidly losing public support." The lawyer Robert (Sikrazhi) from Bay Village, Ohio, says that he does not approve of "the recklessness with which the U.S. Government has treated the Soviet proposal on arms reduction in Europe."

And here is a letter from Honolulu, Hawaii, from Dan (Makgvayer): "Dear General Secretary Andropov: I would like to tell you that there are many Americans who want friendship and not confrontation with the peoples of the Soviet Union. We are very disillusioned with the present U.S. Administration's extremist policy which, in our opinion, is a policy of burning bridges between our two countries. I have never been to the Soviet Union. But I have seen many photographs of your country and your people. My wife and I deeply admire the peoples of the Soviet Union. We hope that as a result of the next presidential elections an administration will come to power in the United States which will seek to cooperate with you in building bridges of mutual understanding between the U.S. and Soviet peoples. But in the meantime I promise to continue my efforts to persuade other Americans not to follow blindly the incumbent President's line which is leading to confrontation and, ultimately, world war. The Americans must realize that we must work with the Soviet people for the sake of cooperation and mutual understanding."

On reading the Americans' letters you get the feeling that you know many of the people living across the ocean. That you have seen their faces and heard their voices. They crowd around you on all sides and talk about themselves; they ask questions and await the answers. Yes, the majority of these people knows that the Soviet Union is an influential force in world affairs, a great power which has achieved great social and cultural successes and is economically and militarily strong. They are deeply perturbed by the threat of nuclear war and the aggravation of international tension and want to know what policy the USSR will pursue on these vitally important issues. In reply I think it will be best to quote the words of the person to whom these letters are addressed -- Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee: "Soviet people and Americans now have a common enemy -- the threat of war and everything which enhances it. The Soviet Union wants to preserve and strengthen peace and is doing everything in its power for this, well aware that there is no more important task in international politics now then to push back the mounting threat of nuclear war and to get control of and halt the nuclear arms race. I would like to hope that the United States will also make its own contribution, one worthy of that great country, not to fueling the arms race and inflaming bellicose passions but to strengthening peace and friendship among the peoples."

PRAVDA ATTACKS U.S. MILITARY AID POLICY

PM242131 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Feb 83 Morning Edition p 5

[Yevgeniy Rusakov "Commentator's Column": "The Geography of Terrorism"]

[Text] Addressing Congress the other day, U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz described the program for military and economic aid to foreign states in 1984 as a "vitally important instrument" of U.S. foreign policy. "We must preserve our military facilities and strengthen local armed forces throughout the world," G. Shultz stated openly. "The United States cannot defend its interests only by operating directly from its own territory or that of Western Europe."

The geographical distribution of the Pentagon's "gifts" is a kind of list of seats of tension, international terrorism and outrages against human rights.

The biggest sum -- nearly $2.5 billion -- is allocated to Israel. How many words the White House has wasted in unsuccessful attempts to dissociate itself from the butchers who committed atrocities in the Palestinian camps of Sabra and Shatila! How many words it is wasting now in advertising the "peace-loving nature of the Reagan plan" for the Near East! But now the next draft budget is on the table, and with it the next confirmation that it is Washington which is the main inspirer and sponsor of Tel Aviv's piratical actions. By putting weapons in the Israeli aggressors' hands the White House seeks to strengthen its military and politcial positions in the Near East. Using the Tel Aviv power lever, it seeks to continue the Camp David course of separate deals, which is aimed at consolidating the occupied status of the territories seized by the Zionists, splitting the Arab world and weakening states which pursue and independent anti-imperialist course. For the sake of keeping Egypt within the orbit of the Camp David deal and establishing the Pentagon on that country's territory, Washington has lavished a substantial sum -- more than $2 billion -- on Cairo.

It is only necessary to name the recipients of U.S. military aid in Central America for the aims of U.S. policy in that region to become clear. Some $205 million is allocated to the Salvadoran butchers. Sops to the Honduran regime, which the Pentagon is turning into its underling, are more than doubled.

More than half a billion dollars is intended for Pakistan -- the main bridgehead for the "undeclared war" of the United States and certain other states against Democratic Afghanistan. Instead of settling the Afghanistan stiaution, Washington is obviously still adhering to the course of knocking together and arming subversive and terrorist gangs to send into that country.

The White House allocates considerable sums to the antipopular Seoul regime.

By increasing military aid to the most bellicose, reactionary pro-American regimes, Washington seeks to urge them to participate still more actively in its "crusade" against peace and progress.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA ON FUNDING OF RADIO LIBERTY, RFE

PM271955 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Feb 83 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Millions for Radio Saboteurs"]

[Text] Washington, 9 Feb -- Broadening psychological warfare against the socialist countries, the Reagan administration plans to sharply intensify the activities of the subversive radio stations "Radio Liberty, Radio Free Europe" and "Radio Free Cuba." Addressing a House of Representatives subcommittee, F. Shakespeare, chairman of the Board for International Radio Broadcasting, requested that $116 million be allocated for these purposes in fiscal 1984. In addition he called on Congress to grant these spy radio centers a further $30 million in the current, 1983 fiscal year.

The Board for International Radio Broadcasting is nominally in charge of these subversive radio stations which are, in fact, totally controlled by the CIA.

Timed to coincide with F. Shakespeare's congressional address was the publication of the annual report of the board he heads, in which Radio Liberty-Radio Free Europe's special role in subversive propaganda activity against the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries is stressed.

These mouthpieces of psychological warfare poison the airwaves for a total of 1,020 hours a week, broadcasting in 21 languages.

The report's authors note with evident satisfaction Radio Liberty-Radio Free Europe's "contribution" to fomenting the "Polish crisis," when international imperialist reaction, especially the United States, went all out to provoke disturbances in that country and openly incited antisocialist elements. As the report points out, last year three-fourths of Radio Liberty's total Polish-language broadcasting time was spent "covering" internal events in Poland. At the same time a mere 6 minutes a day were devoted to events in the United States in this radio station's broadcasts. Arrangements were also made for provocations by turncoats and traitors to the Polish people to be broadcast on Radio Liberty. A 45-minute program called "Radio Bridge to Poland," which the CIA is known to have used extensively for the purpose of transmitting coded signals to its agents in Poland, was broadcast twice a day.

The extra millions of dollars requested from Congress will go to further refine methods of subversive radio broadcasting and gathering and processing information actively utilized by the U.S. spy department. It is known, for example, that around 70 percent of the "data" obtained by Radio Free Europe alone accumulates at the CIA. The extra appropriations will, moreover, be used to reequip these radio centers. In particular, it is planned to modernize a number of obsolete radio transmitters. A site on which to build a new superpowerful transmitter enabling broadcasts to be made to parts of Soviet Central Asia is also being sought in the Near East.

According to the report, the Radio Liberty-Radio Free Europe spy radio stations have cost the enormous sum of $1.2 billion since 1949, with a considerable proportion of that money coming from the CIA.

MOSCOW RADIO REVIEWS SOVIET-CHINESE RELATIONS

OW010627 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Lavrov commentary]

[Excerpts] The 26th CPSU Congress was held in Moscow 2 years ago. This congress laid down a program for social and economic development in our country in the 1980's and set new tasks in developing the national economy and improving, the welfare of the Soviet people. It also put forward a whole set of major foreign policy proposals to basically improve the international situation, eliminate the threat of war and strengthen international security. These proposals cover a wide range of international issues, such as nuclear missiles, conventional weapons and the situation in Europe, the Near East, the Middle East and the Far East. These proposals include political and military measures. All these proposals are aimed only at doing everything possible to free the people from the threat of nuclear war and to safeguard world peace. The following is a commentary by station observer Lavrov:

The 26th CPSU Congress paid particular attention to the issue of normalizing Soviet-Chinese relations as the 1971 24th and the 1976 25th CPSU Congresses did. In its concluding report, the CPSU Central Committee said: The Soviet Union has not sought, and does not seek, a confrontation with the PRC. We continue to pursue the policy laid down by the 24th and 25th CPSU Congresses and are willing to establish relations with the PRC on the basis of goodneighborliness. Our proposals to normalize relations with China are still good. Our respect and friendship for the Chinese people remain unchanged.

As is known to all, the Soviet Union proposed to the Chinese side in 1981 that the two countries discuss confidence-building measures in the Far East. Since then, we have mentioned our country's willingness to pursue the policy and resolution adopted by the 26th CPSU Congress. The Soviet Union has stated: We are prepared to come to terms, without preliminary conditions, on measures acceptable to both sides to improve Soviet-Chinese relations on the basis of mutual respect for each other's interests, noninterference in each other's affairs and mutual benefit -- certainly, not to the detriment of third countries.

The November 1982 plenary session of the CPSU Central Committee stated: The CPSU is faithful to the consistent, principled policy on dialogue laid down by the 24th, 25th and 26th CPSU Congresses.

Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, said: The CPSU and the Soviet state sincerely wish for the development and improvement of relations with all socialist countries.

Comrade Andropov pointed out: Mutual goodwill, respect for each other's legitimate interests and common concern for the interests of socialism and peace should prompt correct solutions where appropriate trust and mutual uderstanding are still lacking for various reasons.

The general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee stressed: this also refers to our great neighbor, the PRC. He also pointed out: The Soviet side pays great attention to every positive response to this from the Chinese side.

In dealing with the issue of normalizing Soviet-Chinese relations, the Soviet Union proceeds from the firm conviction that normalizing Soviet-Chinese relations is in the interests of both the Soviet and Chinese people, and will contribute to strengthening the foundation for peace and stability in Asia and the world.

JAPANESE ECONOMIC, TRADE DELEGATION TALKS CONTINUE

'Joint Declaration'

LD251630 Moscow TASS in English 1608 GMT 25 Feb 83

["Joint Declaration of the Meeting of the Soviet and Japanese Trade and Economic Delegations" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow February 25 TASS -- The Japanese trade and economic delegation of prominent representatives of Japan's business community, led by president of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Chairman of the Japanese-Soviet Committee for Economic Cooperation Shigeo Nagano, visited the Soviet Union from 22 to 26 February 1983 at the invitation of the Soviet Foreign Trade Minister Nikolay Patolichev.

The Soviet delegation, composed of ranking representatives of Soviet ministries, departments and foreign trade organizations, was led by Soviet foreign trade minister, chairman of the Soviet-Japanese committee for economic cooperation Nikolay Patolichev.

The delegations held a meeting, conferences and discussions on the questions of trade and economic relations between the two countries.

At the meeting opinions were broadly exchanged on the present status and the outlook for the development of the Soviet-Japanese foreign economic relations, the development of the national economy and foreign economic relations of the USSR, on the current state and the prospects for the development of the Japanese economy, on the status and the prospects of the Japanese-Soviet scientific and technological cooperation, on the questions of the activities of the economic organisations of the two countries and other issues.

The sides stated that from the moment of normalising the Soviet-Japanese relations, the trade and economic ties between the two countries gained further development Soviet-Japanese trade grew steadily topping 5 billion dollars in 1982. [sentence as received] The sides recognised the existence of further scope for expanding trade and economic ties, and reaffirmed the desirability of their development between the USSR and Japan as neighbouring countries, in the interests of both of them.

At the same time the sides gave attention to the existing obstacles limiting the development of trade and economic relations between the USSR and Japan, and exchanged views on how to remove them in order to increase the potential possibilities for the development of trade and economic cooperation.

The sides exchanged views regarding settling various practical problems in the field of trade and economic relations between the two countries.

The leaders of the Japanese delegation were received by the First Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR Ivan Arkhipov, by the Soviet Foreign Trade Minister Nikolay Patolichev who chairs the Soviet-Japanese Committee on Economic Cooperation, and by the heads of other ministries and departments. During those meetings, opinions were exchanged in a detailed manner on a broad range of issues of the trade and economic ties between the USSR and Japan in the interests of the peoples of both countries and of preserving peace in the world.

The meeting was held in a businesslike atmosphere and in the spirit of mutual understanding. Both sides agreed that the exchange of opinions held was useful for the development of relations between the two countries. The sides agreed that the next session will be held in Tokyo in late April 1984.

Tikhonov Receives Nagano

LD251738 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Nikolay Aleksandrovich Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, today received in the Kremlin Shigeo Nagano, Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry President and chairman of the Japanese-Soviet Committee for Economic Cooperation, who had arrived in the Soviet Union at the head of a Japanese trade and economic delegation.

During the conversation a frank exchange of views took place on questions of Soviet-Japanese trade and economic relations. The positive significance of the development of business cooperation between the USSR and Japan, which brings mutual economic advantages to both countries, was noted.

Comrade Tikhonov drew Nagano's attention to the hopelessness of the attempts by some circles in Japan to make the further development of Soviet-Japanese trade and economic relations dependent on the solution of various far-fetched or unrelated questions.

At the same time the Soviet Union's readiness was expressed to work toward the expansion of business cooperation with Japan, just as with many other countries on a long term basis, if, of course, such a readiness is expressed by the Japanese side.

On behalf of Japan's business circles, Nagano expressed interest in the development of mutually beneficial trade and large-scale economic cooperation with the USSR. He also expressed gratitude to the Soviet side for the attention and hospitality shown in Moscow to the Japanese trade and economic delegation.

Taking part in the conversation were: Comrade Sushkov, deputy foreign trade minister; and Masuo Takashima, the Japanese ambassador to the USSR.

Marchuk Meets Delegation

PM280955 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Feb 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Meeting"]

[Text] G.I. Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology, met yesterday with the Japanese trade and economic delegation headed by S. Nagano. The two sides exchanged views on the prospects for scientific and technical cooperation.

Sushkov, Nagano Press Conference

PM281023 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Feb 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Toward Cooperation and Mutual Understanding"]

[Text] The Soviet-Japanese meeting on trade and economic cooperation ended its work 25 February in Moscow.

The joint declaration notes that a detailed exchange of views took place on a broad range of questions pertaining to trade and economic relations between the USSR and Japan in the interests of people in both countries and of the preservation of peace all over the world. It was held in a businesslike atmosphere and a spirit of mjtual understanding.

On the same day the participants in the meeting gave a press conference.

V.N. Sushkov, head of the Soviet delegation, USSR deputy minister of foreign trade and first deputy chairman of the Soviet-Japanese Committee for Economic Cooperation, stressed that the two sides discussed the results and state of their business contacts, as well as the prospects for further cooperation, including the organization of exhibitions and cultural exchanges. He reminded the journalists that over three and a half years have passed since the last Soviet-Japanese meeting, but nonetheless trade and economic relations between the USSR and Japan have grown constantly. This is being helped mainly by the geographical proximity of the two countries and their mutually complementary economies.

In answer to questions by correspondents, the deputy minister noted that the meeting also discussed the possibility of the conclusion of long-term cooperation plans. Such plans, he said, have already been concluded by the Soviet Union with a number of developed capitalist countries. A long-term plan would also help the better orientation of Japanese exports toward the Soviet market and would help expand economic contacts.

The fruitfulness of the meeting was noted by S. Nagano, head of the Japanese delegation, chairman of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry and chairman of the Japanese-Soviet Committee for Economic Cooperation. He drew attention to the existing obstacles which limit the development of trade and economic relations between the two countries. Nonetheless, the visitor stressed, the Japanese business circles are making all efforts to develop contacts with the Soviet Union. This is evidenced by the visit to the USSR by an economic delegation, the most impressive in the country's entire history, consisting of leaders from the largest firms and companies which determine the development of Japan's national economy. Furthermore, it is noteworthy that all members of the delegation are unanimous in their opinion about the visit to the Soviet Union. They find it purposeful and useful.

We do not link politics with trade, S. Nagano declared. The political problems between our countries must be resolved politically. Trade and economic cooperation should develop along its own path.

The visitor noted that the Japanese side started business relations with the Soviet Union for the purpose of obtaining the raw materials and other goods they needed. Now this cooperation involves a large goods turnover and major economic projects. The prospects include the involvement of small and medium firms in the contacts and the expansion of coastal trade.

It was announced at the press conference that a decision has been taken to hold regular Soviet-Japanese meetings for trade and economic cooperation once a year. The next meeting will be held in April next year in Tokyo.

Baybakov Meets Nagano

LD261611 Moscow TASS in English 1550 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 26 TASS -- Nikolay Baybakov, a deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR State Planning Committee, today received a Japanese commercial and economic delegation led by Shigeo Nagano, president of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Japan and chairman of the Japanese-Soviet Committee for Economic Cooperation.

During the talks, they discussed issues related to the further development of trade and economic relations between the Soviet Union and Japan.

Later today the delegation, which had taken part in negotiations with a soviet commercial and economic delegation on questions of trade and economic relations between the two countries, left for home.

IZVESTIYA on Trade Talks

PM010903 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Feb 83 Morning Edition p 3

[Article by S. Churgov: "The USSR and Japan: In the Interests of Cooperation"]

[Text] The Moscow Soviet-Japanese meeting on trade and economic cooperation has completed its work. The work of this representative forum has attracted widespread attention not only in the Soviet Union and in Japan but also among business and political circles in many other states.

The attention paid to the Moscow meeting was natural and law-governed, although far from homogeneous. The Washington "hawks" treated the Japanese businessmen's visit to Moscow with unconcealed irritation, discerning in the businesslike Soviet-Japanese dialogue an impediment to their course toward fueling international tension. Nor did the Japanese delegation enjoy any popularity among certain circles in Japan itself -- among those who would like to see trade and economic contracts as an instrument for pressuring the Soviet Union, an instrument for undermining good-neighborliness between the two countries.

The progress of the meetings and talks in Moscow recently was also followed attentively by West European businessmen who steer their own course in mutual trade and economic relations with the USSR. As for Japan itself, its business circles and broad public linked with the delegation's visit their hopes for the activation of Soviet-Japanese business cooperation and the thawing of the overall climate in mutual relations between the two countries.

In receiving the Japanese delegation the Soviet Union proceded from its immutable readiness to promote all-around normalization of relations with its Far Eastern neighbor and from a principled assessment of the development of business contacts as a phenomenon according with the interests of both sides, satisfying their economic needs and at the same time forming the material base for good-neighborliness.

This approach by the Soviet Side and the Japanese business world's mounting interest in growing multifaceted trade and economic ties with the Soviet Union, the Japanese businessmen's widening understanding of the hopelessness and malignancy of the "sanctions" policy imposed by Washington predetermined the fruitfulness of the Moscow meeting, held at the international trade center. This outcome was also assisted by the fact that the Japanese side was represented by the most influential and numerous delegation (over 250 people) in the entire history of Soviet-Japanese relations.

During the work of the meeting, which took place in a businesslike atmosphere and in a spirit of mutual understanding, there was a thorough exchange of opinions on a wide range of questions of trade and economic ties. There was a discussion not only of the present state of Soviet-Japanese business contacts; considerable attention was also paid to the prospects for further cooperation in the economic sphere. As V.N. Sushkov, USSR deputy minister of foreign trade and the head of the Soviet delegation, noted at a press conference, the meeting also discussed the possibility of concluding long-term cooperation plans, which have already proved their efficacy in trade and economic mutual relations between the USSR and a number of other industrially developed capitalist countries.

The fruitfulness of the business forum was also noted by the head of the Japanese delegation, S. Nagano, president of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry. He stressed that all members of the delegation are united in their assessment of the Moscow meeting as expedient and useful.

At a meeting in the Kremlin with S. Nagano, N.A. Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, confirmed the Soviet side's readiness to promote the expansion of business cooperation with Japan providing, naturally, that a corresponding readiness is displayed on the Japanese side. In turn the head of the Japanese delegation, on behalf of Japan's business circles, expressed interest in developing mutually advantageous trade and large-scale economic cooperation with the USSR.

The Japanese delegation's visit to the Soviet Union and the exchange of opinions in Moscow thus demonstrated both sides' interest in preserving and expanding mutually advantageous trade and economic contacts and their understanding of the expediency of using the advantages opened up by the two countries' geographical proximity and the mutually complementary nature of their economies.

The future will show how these opportunities are realized, and this future itself will depend considerably on how precisely Japan is able to recognize the hopelessness of Soviet-Japanese trade and economic relations with various far-fetched or externally introduced "issues." Business contacts must accord with the peoples' interests and the interests of preserving peace, not the interests of the opponents of international cooperation.

USSR SEIZES JAPANESE BOAT FOR ILLEGAL FISHING

OW262309 Tokyo KYODO in English 0247 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] Tokyo, Feb 26, KYODO -- The Soviet Foreign Ministry has informed the Japanese Embassy in Moscow of the capture of a Japanese fishboat allegedly operating illegally in Soviet waters, the Japanese Foreign Ministry said Saturday. The 349-ton trawler No 16 Eikyu Maru [name as received] with a crew of 27 based at Memuro, Hokkaido, was operating in the Bering Sea Thursday when it reported a brush with a Soviet warship.

In reply to an inquiry by the Japanese Embassy, the Soviet Foreign Ministry said the trawler operated without permission in forbidden area and did not obey the order to stop by the authorities. The Soviet side said the Eikyu Maru was led by the port of Korf on the Kamchatka Peninsula, according to the Foreign Ministry.

Soviet officials were quoted as saying they had no information on the fate of the crew, but believed they were all safe.

USTINOV RECEIVES MONGOLIAN DEFENSE MINISTER

LD281558 Moscow TASS in English 1549 GMT 28 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 28 TASS -- Marshal of the Soviet Union Dmitriy Ustinov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, minister of defense of the USSR, today received Colonel General Jamsrangiyn Yondon, minister of defense of the Mongolian People's Republic.

During a cordial and friendly conversation the two ministers discussed issues of mutual interest.

Marshal of the Soviet Union Nikolay Ogarkov, chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces, first deputy minister of defense of the USSR, and Marshal of the Soviet Union Sergey Sokolov, first deputy minister of defense of the USSR took part in the conversation. Bat-Ochiryn Gotob, ambassador of Mongolia to the USSR, was present at the meeting.

PRAVDA REPORTS SESSION OF DPRK LEADING BODIES

PM281323 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Feb 83 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Discussion of Topical Questions"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 25 Feb -- A joint session of the Korean Workers Party Central Committee Politburo and the DPRK Central People's Committee has taken place here. A speech was delivered at the session by Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Korean Workers Party Central Committee and DPRK president.

It was pointed out at the session that as a result of the imperialist policy of aggression and war the present international situation is exceptionally tense and there is a growing danger of a new world war. A grave and dangerous situation has also emerged in the Korean peninsula as a result of the attempts to knock together a tripartite military alliance between the United States, Japan and South Korea.

The Nonaligned Movement is one of the mighty forces promoting the relaxation of tension, the prevention of the tragedy of a new war and the safeguarding of peace and security all over the world. Before all else the nonaligned countries are now facing the paramount task of struggling against the policy of aggression and war pursued by the imperialists headed by the United States. The nonaligned countries must spearhead their struggle against the imperialists' intrigues and create a united front of struggle against war and for peace.

The session expressed solidarity with the just struggle of the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America. The DPRK Government, together with all member countries of the Nonaligned Movement and declares yet again that it will continue to give assistance to the struggle waged by the Palestinian people and the peoples of the Arab world for the return of Arab lands and the restitution of the national rights of the Palestinian people.

The participants in the session declared their support for the cause of the liberation of the Namibian and South African peoples, the struggle of all African peoples for the complete liberation of the continent and the struggle of the European peoples for peace and security in Europe.

CHERNENKO RECEIVES DPRK AMBASSADOR, KIM LETTER

LD251325 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Comrade Chernenko, Politburo member and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, today received Kwon Hui-kyong, ambassador of the DPRK to the Soviet Union. The ambassador handed a personal message addressed to Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, from Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Korean Workers Party Central Committee and president of the DPRK. There was a friendly conversation between Comrades Chernenko and Kwon Hui-kyong.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA DESCRIBES REBEL ATTACKS IN KABUL

PM281511 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Feb 83 Second Edition p 3

[Dispatch by special correspondents Colonel Yu. Telov and Lieutenant Colonel V. Skrizhalin: "The Enemies' Sallies Are Doomed to Failure"]

[Text] Kabul, 26 Feb -- There are many different "voices" in the West which pour generous buckets of mud on Soviet-Afghan relations and endeavor to pass off white as black. They seek to distort the role and place of the limited Soviet military contingent in the life of Afghanistan. It cannot be ruled out that now, too, one of these "voices" will shed crocodile tears, as was the case that time -- before the New Year. They maintained then that it was the Russians who were to blame for the tension which Kabul experienced for several days: Their soldiers, it was said, took up additional posts outside enterprises and establishments. Their armored personnel carriers patrolled the city. All this, it was said, is an encroachment upon the country's sovereignty, creates an atmosphere of nervousness and prevents the Afghans from leading a normal life.

Enemies of the new life being born in Afghanistan "celebrate" in their own way -- with wild cruelty -- dates which are portentous for the people but which they themselves abhor. At the end of December it was the anniversary of the new stage of the April Revolution. This time, in February, it was the 65th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces. They knew that this festival would be celebrated by our servicemen fulfilling their international duty, by the Soviet people who are here and whose labor and fraternal assistance are elevating our country in the eyes of the Afghan people, and also by our Afghan friends.

Of course, this is not to some people's liking. This is why on the eve of the Soviet Army festival, as also in the days before the New Year, leaflets appeared in the city which contained both appeals and threats not to go to work and to sabotage all the authorities' orders, while traders were "forbidden" to open their stores.

On the eve of the festival, 22 February, Kabul was beginning its usual workday. Yellow and white taxis were dashing about. People hurrying to work were crowding around bus stops. Cleaners were sweeping the streets. Despite the "ban," store owners were preparing to begin trading...

At that time the first explosion went off. A few minutes later -- a second. A very tall column of smoke and dust rose over the market (this is what the commercial center in the "old quarter" of Kabul is called). The last explosion occurred at a bus stop. The buildings around it had their windows blown out. By a lucky chance a bus had picked up the passengers who had gathered there literally a minute before the explosion.

The result of these acts of terrorism was that several people were killed and more than 10 injured. But this is what is significant: The victims did not include any Soviet people. A lucky chance? Hardly. The mines were laid in places where at that time there could not have been any Soviet people. A primitive design. Its purpose was to set the Afghan population against the Soviet people. Look, compatriots, it was said: The Russians are celebrating, while on their festival you are mourning your dear ones, who have become the inevitable victims of the "holy war against the infidels."

But the Afghan people realize who are their friends and who their enemies. With what hope the Afghans looked on the Soviet sappers -- guards Lieutenant I. Rynkov and guards Privates V. Papukchia and P. Suyuchaliyev, who investigated apartment blocks with mine detectors and probing rods -- as deliverers from all future misfortunes. How readily the residents opened up their basements for our servicemen, showing them all the secluded corners from where death by TNT could be expected.

On their holiday many of our servicemen were serving to guard Kabul, so that the city could sleep soundly.

We were driving through the city. The sun was already licking up the night's snow. We encountered trucks and buses painted all colors, as well as trucks from the Ulyanovsk motor vehicle plant with Soviet military numbers. A detail of the Sarandoy (people's militia) stood at the entrance to a bridge over the Kabul river. Soviet servicemen stood alongside. Precision, order, work rhythm.

In Kabul the modern and the ancient contrast with one another. The modern includes multistory apartment blocks making an onslaught on the adobe huts. This peaceful attack is being waged by the collective of the kabul housebuilding combine. We mention it because the workers of the enterprise still remember from time to time (Rafik) Volodya or (Rafik) Yura, alongside whom they worked communist subbotniks. (Rafik) means comrade. Volodya is captain in Zemtsov, and Yura is Sergeant Kozlov or perhaps some other Yura. They are remembered by the workers (Niyaz Mukhammad), (Abdul Madzhid) and many others....

The ancient includes a woman in a parandja and gray-bearded men in turbans. It includes bazaars, stores and a countless number of small stalls, whose owners start by asking quite exorbitant prices with a view to the custom of haggling.

No, it was not the stores that attracted us to the market. It was there that one of the three mines blew up. The hole in the wall of the store had still not been closed up, and the massive awning was hanging just by its supporting rods.

On noticing that we were inspecting the damage a young storekeeper approached and was joined by his colleagues.

The storekeeper said: "A mine."

And everyone started talking, making a noise. You did not need an interpreter in order to understand at whom the traders' anger was directed. If the person who had left the hawker's pushcart crammed with explosives at that spot had fallen into their hands, then they would have torn him to pieces.

Against whom and what was the diversion planned? Here there were neither Afghan nor Soviet soldiers. Just peaceful residents who want to lead a quiet life, to work, trade and pray. Whose hand goaded into this and paid the one who dared to take the life of an Afghan girl who just happened to be nearby?...

We recalled a photograph carried by UPI. President Reagan was touchingly embracing an Afghan girl student. Good luck to him, as the saying goes. It is his personal, publicity affair. Only the point is that the girl is the daughter of one of the leaders of counterrevolutionary groups. The president's sympathies give rise to no doubt: It is no accident that 5 years after the April Revolution the United States has spent $218 million on paying Afghan counterrevolutionaries of various hues.

It is precisely the leaders of the Dushman gangs entrenched in Pakistan who issue the orders to blow up power line pylons, to burn schools and mosques, to kill party activists and representatives of the intelligentsia and the clergy who have accepted the new authority and to butcher entire families for disobedience.

But more of this later. Let recent Dushmans tell of this themselves, and let eyewitnesses, whom we will meet later at a press conference, testify to it. For now we will tell you of a recent trip to one of the miltiary units of the limited contingent of Soviet troops in Afghanistan. There, in the office of the unit's commander, we again heard the word "mine."

Battalion commander guards Major A. Rodichev, who had just arrived at the headquarters from a distant "spot," was reporting. His subordinates ensure the safety of traffic along a motor road by means of a system of posts.

Rodichev reported that a joint rally with villagers was held on Soviet Army and Navy Day, that the Dushmans had fired on one of the posts yesterday and that two mines had been rendered safe over the past 24 hours.

"Where were they made?" the commander inquired.

"Italy, type TS-6."

We already had an idea of what they look like. They are deadly plastic products, which do not register on a mine detector. The day before we had been shown an entire museum of mines which had been rendered harmless, with exhibits of very different marks and styles. Pellet mines stamped USA, Chinese ones like 10 kg weights, Israeli ones, British ones, Belgian ones -- large ones the size of a pressure cooker, small ones the size of a woman's fist....

No, it is not safe for our soldiers and officers to fulfill their internationaî mission on on Afghan territory. But they have commitments to the DRA people and government and a sense of shared responsibility for that country's future and for the future of the grubby children who today stand at counters instead of going to school.

...A leaflet lay on the unit commander's desk. It spoke of the heroic actions of guards Junior Seargeant Sergey Divakov. The leaflet reported just the fact, and it was impossible to tell from it where Divakov was born, where he lived, where he studied, of what he was thinking before taking up his post or to whom he wrote letters.

Sergey Divakov has been awarded the Order of the Red Star. He is continuing to serve, like his comrades. In the morning they are faced with a new mission, and the unit commander has already received their readiness report.

This probably will not be safe either -- traveling through three provinces in a convoy -- because the Dushmans are profoundly indifferent to the fact that the freight is destined for inhabitants and that the soldiers with five-pointed stars on their caps are taking rice to villages.

All life starts with birth pangs. The new life of the Afghan people is also starting with pangs. No revolution takes place unopposed by the overthrown classes, without casualties or bloodshed. The revolution in Afghanistan is a process complicated by the country's age-old backwardness. April 1978 is the life and blood of the revolutionary party and the progressive officers who had to grope to take their first steps....

What has changed since then, and what is happening in the republic today, on the threshold of the revolution's fifth anniversary?

Yes, the country is still restless. Yes, gangs are active in the mountains. Yes, a mine blew up in a commercial square in Kabul.

But the explosion was a particular instance, a convulsive gesture by the counter-revolution, a gesture of impotence, an act of revenge for the fact that the residents of Kabul did not respond to the call to go on strike and struggle against the "infidels." The stupefied peasants are beginning to ponder their role, and refugees who left the country are returning to Afghanistan. A call to support the revolutionary power is heard in priests' sermons.

That day we attended a press conference at which former Dushmans and a mullah from Jalalabad answered questions put by journalists accredited in Afghanistan.

... We had seen this man on a photograph less than 6 months old. His name is (Malang). Hair falling onto his shoulders, beard, mustache, straight nose and penetrating dark eyes. That was how the leader of one of the Dushman gangs looked. Now he is seated at a table and in no way resembled the man who was photographed against a rocky background. It is as though the man had straightened up, He answered the questions concisely, with a sense of his own dignity.

"I have crossed the Pakistani border many times. I underwent a training course under the leadership of foreign instructors. One of them was (Noman), most likely from Egypt. There was also an American and a Chinese.

"We fulfilled the leaders' instructions. We burned convoys and killed the drivers. I did not give any thought to the political platform.

"I consciously switched to the side of the revolutionary power because I realized that I could not stay with those who are against the people...."

He did not make the switch alone, but with his comrades in arms. He still commands them, only he now fights on the side of the revolution.

The journalists' questions were also answered by former Dushmans from Parvan Province -- (Malek-Aga) and (Mokhammed-Ismail), who were also trained in Pakistan and returned to their motherland as bandits.

And in answering the journalists' questions Maulawi (Rukhalla) from Jalalabad proved the fact that they and their ilk were bandits and not defenders of Islam, which was what they passed themselves off as.

"There is a place in hell for him who kills a muslim brother. I saw bandits burst into a house. They beheaded the husband, wife and five children just because they refused to go to Pakistan. I saw them burn mosques, blow up bridges and kill six muslims who said their prayers. These people are not defenders of Islam but its enemies...."

People always reach enlightenment through the bitterness of mistakes. But it comes just the same. The total victory of the revolution is still a long way off. But there is no crossroads for the Afghan people. There is the straight and difficult road which they are traveling in the clear knowledge that their mighty northern neighbor -- the Soviet Union -- is always ready to give them assistance and support.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA ON SOVIET EXERCISES IN DRA

PM281601 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Feb 83 First Edition p 2

[Colonel I. Dynin report under the rubric "On Afghanistan's Soil": "Steep Mountain Passes"]

[Text] The motorized riflemen made their first halt right at the entrance to a large village. And it was strange that the ubiquitous children did not come running from the huts to the army vehicles like before nor did the sedate old men come out to talk "with the Russian commanders." The same picture was repeated during the second halt. The settlement seemed dead. The commander summoned propaganda worker Senior Lieutenant V. Gubriy.

"Something is wrong here," he said thoughtfully. "Should we find out what the matter is?"

Gubriy is indispensable in such matters. He is a graduate of the Tashkent State University's department of oriental languages, knows English and Persian and can make himself understood in Dari and Pashto.

And even though in Afghanistan virtually every village has its own dialect he can translate the conversations of local inhabitants without difficulty and they understand him well. But knowledge alone, of course, is not enough, you need courage. And Gubriy does not lack that quality. Not for nothing was the young propaganda worker awarded the Order of the Red Star. Many times, as on this occasion, he had to set off into the unknown, unsure of what he would find in an unexpectedly deserted village just like this.

The tall empty huts had a sombre and gloomy appearance and the silence seemed deceptive. Walking through the narrow maze of streets between walls of clay, Viktor, his whole body tensed, expected danger....

A door creaked sharply. A white-haired old man appeared in the entrance to the building as though he had come from out of the ground.

"I am sick and helpless, spare me," he stammered in terror.

Gubriy soon learned that shortly before the column's arrival, the Dushmans had been to the villages. Through loudhailers they had intimidated the local population by saying: "Soon the Russians will come, they will kill and rob. Take your property, go to the mountains. Those who remain will be considered enemies of Islam and our enemies, too." The deeply religious and, for the most part, illiterate peasants, who had never even seen Soviet people, hurriedly left their villages. Only a few people, the very old and gravely sick, remained behind. Wasting no time, the medical officer and medical instructor tended the sick, soldiers provided heating in the homes of the infirm old people and quartermasters distributed blankets.

Rightly is it said that good news travels fast. In a short while the elders returned to the village. Gubriy talked with them after which they asked him to arrange a meeting "with the most senior officer." Having seen for themselves that everything the Dushmans had said was a malicious lie, the elders said that the inhabitants of the village would return. And soon the hungry and exhausted people came down from the mountains bearing their meagre belongings on donkeys or on their backs.

After making a radio report to the senior commander, it was decided to keep the column there for 24 hours. The inhabitants asked for an explanation of the events occurring in the country and to be told about the USSR. A meeting was held. You had to see for yourself the eagerness with which the Afghans hung onto every word Gubriy said himself and when he translated the speeches of others. Then the Soviet servicemen began to share their food with the very poor and distributed several cases of soap. And in the evening a movie entitled "The Tadjik SSR" in Dari was shown right out in the street. Meanwhile over 20 local inhabitants had received medical assistance. The elders of (Anava) and Qalacheh villages had gathered and were holding a fervent discussion amongst themselves. It was decided to set up jirga as local authority organs are called in Afghanistan.

The next day, when the vehicle convoy was preparing to continue its journey, everyone -- old and young -- came out to see the Soviet friends off.

"Thank you, Viktor! " said a white bearded old man, approaching Gubriy and bowing respectfully.

He continued talking for a long time although Viktor, smiling embarrassedly, was in no hurry to translate his words. Everyone could sense that the representative of the newly-created jirga was thanking the political worker for his concern and attention.

Service on Afghanistan's soil makes special demands on all servicemen. It is not easy being far from our motherland, from those near and dear to you. The difficult climatic conditions take their toll. The lack of roads presents quite a few difficulties. And how exhausting exercises in the mountains are, when each meter takes a tremendous and intensive effort and it is hard to breathe because the air is so thin. There are considerable other ordeals. The Dushmans are continuing their piratical onslaughts. All this also leaves its mark on political workers' activity.

Many of those with whom I have had occasion to talk spoke of the political workers' place and his role in the combat training and everyday life of subunits and units. The question is not new but it bothers people. And that goes without saying. The more complex and tense the situation, the more actively and purposefully party political work most be conducted. And experience shows that a political worker's prestige is directly dependent on his professional qualities, his ability to show courage at difficult moments and assume responsibility for the fulfillment of a particular task....

The march in which Captain Vyacheslav Berestyan was taking part began in a situation familiar to many. But the further the battalion progressed into the mountains, the more anxious the reports from the company commanders became. The locality proved too treacherous. The equipment became bogged down and jams built up on the narrow tracks. It was becoming increasingly difficult to direct the subunits. And as bad luck would have it, it was precisely at that moment that Captain Aleksandr Babkin, the company commander, injured a leg.

"What shall we do, commissar?" the battalion commander said looking at Berestyan questioningly.

"Permission to replace Babkin?" Vyacheslav said, answering a question with a question.

"Agreed. I shall rest easy about the company. Only take a good radio operator with you."

"I shall take Alikhanov."

"Alikhanov?" the battalion commander, said looking with surprise at his deputy in charge of political affairs, but after some hesitation agreed. "Good."

Alikhanov's spirits had flagged recently, he had lost his former initiative and zeal. He preferred to avoid problems. Instances of carelessness appeared in his work at the radio set. His commanders did not assign him responsible tasks and his comrades began to turn to him incresingly rarely for assistance...

"Do you understand how hard it is to gain prestige and how easy it is to lose it?" Berestyan asked the soldier once.

They spoke for a long time....

Soon after this conversation the company went on supply work. To everyone's surprise, Alikhanov requested a place in the construction detachment and worked till he dropped, as they say. Everyone was surprised at this.

"Is it your influence?" the battalion commander asked the political unit deputy.

Vyacheslav replied: "It was not I alone who helped him." Berestyan's modesty is an inherited feature, so to speak. His father, Anatoliy Kuzmich was a sapper during the Great Patriotic War and remained for over 20 years after the war with the rank of extended service warrant officer. His combat awards indicate his courage.

Once in the reserve, Anatoliy Kuzmich did not go into retirement. He began work as a fitter at a plant. He worked as he had served, conscientiously. Vyacheslav went home on routine leave once. It was late one Saturday and the next morning the entire family was going to the election center. Before going, he asked his parents who was running in their rayon as candidate for the local soviet. In reply his father merely gestured: You will know everything when we get there. And it was only at the election center that Vyacheslav knew the candidate's name: Anatoliy Kuzmich Berestyan.

"It's you!" he exclaimed.

"Yes," his father said, embarrassed, "vote for me, if you think me worthy."

But it is not just modesty that Captain Berestyan has inherited from his father. He also possesses both an enviable diligence and an ability to work with people. This quality was noticed by company commander Captain A. Rudometov when Berestyan was still a military college cadet. And Rudometov was not mistaken. Even though Vyacheslav graduated from General Military Command College his fate lay elsewhere -- he became a political worker. As deputy commander for political affairs of a motorized rifle battalion, he completed the "Vystrel" [higher infantry school of Soviet Army] course where he acquired the necessary knowledge. That is why, when the battalion commander asked him "what shall we do, commissar?" Vyacheslav was confident that he could replace the disabled commander.

At the company's position Berestyan was greeted by Captain Vladimir Baskanov, a political worker. With his assistance Berestyan examined the situation. The neighboring company, attacking along the brow of the hill, had advanced. But this company, following the course of a shallow stream, had lagged behind a little and the "enemy" had not failed to exploit this. They had opened intensive fire from the steep bank opposite. Assessing the situation, Berestyan realized that the ambush had not been laid for nothing. It seems that the "enemy," having decided to slow down the main forces at all costs, was intending to cut the neighboring subunit off and ensnare it. There could be no delay.

"We will make a detour," Berestyan decided and explained: "We must cross the river and get behind the ambush."

The "enemy," it seems, had not foreseen the possibility of such a maneuver. The motorized riflemen made a headlong dash across the torrent to the other bank using the natural surroundings for cover against the "enemy's fire." Leaping from rock to rock, Captain Berestyan sensed Alikhanov's breath behind him the whole time. Virtually in midstream he unexpectedly lost his balance but the soldier rescued the officer immediately. And during the fighting the radio operator showed genuine courage and helped comrades in difficult situations.

After brief fighting the ambush was neutralized. The offensive continued according to the previously formulated plan and ended successfully. A great part in this was played by the company temporarily commanded by the politcial worker. For courage and selflessness, Captain V.A. Berestyan, deputy commander of the political unit of a motorized rifle battalion, was awarded the Order of the Red Star.

That memorable exercise was also the turning point in the fate of radio operator Alikhanov. He received the rank of junior sergeant and was awarded the medal "For Combat Services"....

While on Afghanistan's soil I visited tank troops, motorized rifle troops, helicopter troops and assault troops. And everywhere I was impressed by the high prestige of political workers. They have to resolve quite a few difficult questions in a complex atmosphere. And the fact that they are resolving them successfully is indicated by the orders and medals marking their military labor.

MEETINGS MARK ANNIVERSARY OF AFGHAN TREATY

Moscow Meeting

PM252157 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Feb 83 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Glorious Anniversary"]

[Text] The Soviet-Afghan Friendship Treaty is the unshakable foundation of the two countries' relations. This was emphasized in Moscow 23 February at a public meeting devoted to the 62d anniversary of the signing of the document.

It was pointed out at the meeting that the Soviet Union comes out resolutely on the Afghan people's side in the struggle against aggressive and subversive actions by enemies of the revolution and external interference in the DRA's internal affairs. In building the new society on the basis of equality and social justice the people of Afghanistan can continue to count on the Soviet people's solidarity and international assistance.

H. Mangal, DRA ambassador to the USSR, said that the friendship treaty, drafted with V.I. Lenin's direct participation, ushered in a truly free and independent Afghanistan. The unbreakable friendship between the two countries' peoples wholly accords with the Afghan people's interests.

Kabul Meeting

PM011101 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Mar 83 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Ceremonial Meeting"]

[Text] A ceremonial meeting devoted to the 62d anniversary of the conclusion of the treaty on establishing friendly relations between the RSFSR and Afghanistan has taken place in the Afghan capital, TASS reports.

It was attended by A. Ratebzad, member of the DPDA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Afghan-Soviet Friendship Society, members of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and the Central Committee, ministers and representatives of the Afghan public. Speaking at the meeting, Gol Dad, DRA deputy prime minister, stressed the treaty's great significance.

IZVESTIYA DETAILS WESTERN AID TO DRA REBELS

PM010821 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Feb 83 Morning Edition p 3

[A. Akhmedzyanov, G. Ustinov dispatch: "Revelatory Facts"]

[Text] Kabul -- A press conference for Afghan and foreign journalists took place here on 26 February at which new facts and evidence about the nature of the undeclared war being waged by the United States against Afghanistan were made public.

Three former members of counterrevolutionary gangs who have come over to the republic's side addressed the journalists. They spoke about the methods and forms of training saboteurs and killers in Pakistani camps and the crimes of the Dushman rabble on Afghan territory.

It was said at the press conference that from the earliest days after the victory of the April Revolution in Afghanistan the United States and its allies launched large-scale interference in the internal affairs of the young democratic republic. An endless stream of enormous resources, every kind of weapon and other material resources for creating, training and equipping bandit formations which are dispatched into Afghanistan began to be sent to neighboring Pakistan. In the 5 years since the April Revolution more than 100 camps, bases and centers for training counterrevolutionary groups have been set up on Pakistani territory. During this time the United States has allocated $218 million in "aid" to the hired killers and aggressors, saboteurs and terrorists. In the current year the United States has allocated $105 million for these purposes. This sum is more than double all the so-called American aid given to Afghanistan's reactionary regimes in the 20 years leading up to the April Revolution.

The U.S.'s NATO allies are not lagging behind their transatlantic friends: Over this 5-year period the FRG has spent DM60 million on training, maintaining and arming the counterrevolutionaries, and Britain has spent 18 million pounds.

The cases of brutality and violence committed by the bandits under the instructions of and in the pay of foreign sponsors which were adduced at the press conference revealed once again the sinister aims of the imperialists who are waging an undeclared war against revolutionary Afghanistan.

TRADE WITH DRA REPORTEDLY INCREASING RAPIDLY

LD290756 Moscow TASS in English 0615 GMT 27 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 26 TASS -- Last year, the total volume of trade turnover between the Soviet Union and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan increased by almost 40 million roubles as compared with 1981, a TASS correspondent was told at the USSR Foreign Trade Ministry. According to preliminary estimates, the sum total of trade turnover between the two countries was worth nearly 700 million roubles. This sum includes not only reciprocal supplies of products and raw materials necessary for the economy of both countries, but also the volume of work on cooperation projects in economic construction.

In 1982, twelve Afghan economic projects were put into operation by the joint efforts of the USSR and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. Among the energy projects is the compressor station, which was put into service in Hoja-Gugerdag gasfield. Expansion has been completed of an oil tank farm in Hairoton and a thermal power station at the nitrogen fertilizer works in Mazar-e Sharif in December 1982, another oil tank farm was put into guaranteed service in the same town.

A weighty contribution was made last year also to the development of the transport network in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, which is of great significance for a successful development of many branches of the republic's national economy. Thus an automobile-railway bridge across the Amu-Darya has been put into operation in Hairaton area. A transshipment base for cargo handling has been built on the Afghan bank of the river. The construction of the first phase of an automotive transport works to service 300 trucks a year has been completed in Kabul.

The USSR and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan are successfully continuing cooperation also in the field of agriculture, which contributes to the resolution of the food problem in the country. Flour mills have been built in Puli-Humi and Mazar-Sharif in close cooperation between the organizations of the two countries. A bakery for the production of 20 tons of bread, buns and rolls a day has been put into operation.

Among the Soviet-Afghan cooperation projects, which were commissioned last year, is the ground outer space communication station "Lotos" and other projects and enterprises. Reconstruction has also been completed of a house-building works in Kabul, on whose successful operation depends in a large measure the effort to improve housing conditions for thousands of Afghan families.

ZIAUL HAQ USING AFGHAN REBELS TO BOLSTER REGIME

PM281525 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Feb 83 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Using Bandits"]

[Text] The Afghan counterrevolutionary rabble entrenched on Pakistani soil are being used by Ziaul Haq's military regime to suppress the country's growing movement of the Pakistani people for democratic rights and freedoms.

The armed bandits who make bloody raids on the DRA from Pakistani territory are prepared to commit any crime for money. The military authorities, who are finding it increasingly hard to contain the struggle of the country's population for a return to civilian rule, are taking advantage of this fact. As the Karachi newspaper AWAM reports, the Islamabad administration is soon to send some 40,000 basmachi into a number of regions of Punjab Province, where the population are coming out actively against the military regime. (Abdul Khafiz Lakkho), chairman of the Karachi city association of lawyers, has pointed out that the Pakistani authorities are using anti-Afghan bandit formations as goons to break the Pakistanis' determination to obtain democratic transformations in the country, TASS reports. Wherever armed Afghan basmachs appear, he noted, there are inevitably skirmishes with the local population; who are fighting for their democratic rights. The Afghan counterrevolutionary rabble are carrying out policing, punitive functions in Pakistan, (A.Kh. Lakkho) stressed.

Pakistani political parties have resolutely condemned the attempts by the Ziaul Haq administration to use Afghan mercenaries to protect its regime. (Gulam Mustafa Dzhatoy), one of the leaders of the Pakistan People's Party, stated at a press conference in Karachi that the time has come to throw out the uninvited guests -- the Afghan counter-revolutionaries -- and put and end to Pakistan's shameful participation in the "undeclared war" against the DRA. He called on Islamabad to immediately begin direct talks with representatives of the DRA Revolutionary Council headed by Babrak Karmal.

COMMENTARY, REPORTS ON INDOCHINA SUMMIT MEETING

PRAVDA Report

PM251517 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Feb 83 First Edition p 5

[TASS reports: "Following a Course of Cooperation and Good-Neighborliness"]

[Text] Vientiane, 24 Feb -- A conference of the top leaders of the SRV, the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and the People's Republic of Kampuchea [PRK] was held here 22-23 February. The SRV delegation was headed by Le Duan, general secretary of the Vietnam Communist Party Central Committee, the LPDR delegation by Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and chairman of the LPDR Council of Ministers, and the PRK delegation by Heng Samrin, general secretary of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party and chairman of the PRK State Council.

The participants in the conference discussed questions concerning the situation in Southeast Asia and in the world and the further development of the traditional friendship between the three countries of Indochina. They adopted a joint statement which reaffirms that Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam will continue to strengthen solidarity and cooperation with each other on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism.

The peoples of Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam warmly welcome and fully support the peace initiatives of the Soviet Union and the socialist countries, particularly the proposals put forward at the Prague Conference of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee.

The Indochinese countries will steadily strengthen their cohesion and all-round cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, make every possible contribution to strengthening the unity of the socialist community, whose pivot is the Soviet Union, and give support to national liberation movements in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

The Indochinese countries warmly welcome the seventh conference of heads of state and government of nonaligned countries, to be held in Delhi in March.

The abnormal relations with the PRC did not arise through the fault of the Indochinese countries. Pursuing their unchanging policy, Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam spare no effort to restore normal relations with the PRC on the basis of peaceful coexistence.

Vientiane, 24 Feb -- At the conference held here of the top leaders of the SRV, the LPDR and the PRK, a statement was adopted on the presence of Vietnamese volunteer troops in Kampuchea.

"After the defeat of the U.S. imperialists in Indochina in 1975," the document says, "the Beijing ruling circles embarked on an openly hostile policy against the three Indochinese countries."

On the basis of the traditions of combat cohesion between the peoples and revolutionary armed forces of Kampuchea and Vietnam, in fulfillment of the sacred right to self-defense and at the request of the Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation, Vietnamese volunteer troops entered Kampuchea to oust the Pol Pot butchers' regime together with the people of Kampuchea.

After the collapse of the Pol Pot regime, Beijing continued its hostile policy against the three Indochinese countries. In February 1979 an act of armed aggression was perpetrated against Vietnam. Thailand's territory is being used as a supply base for Pol Potite and other reactionary gangs, which penetrate Kampuchea and hinder that country's people in the cause of national rebirth.

In these conditions, in accordance with the treaty on peace, friendship and cooperation, the PRK Government asked the Vietnamese volunteer troops to remain in Kampuchea, fulfill their international duty and help the people of Kampuchea and their armed forces in the cause of building and defending the country. The presence of Vietnamese volunteer troops in Kampuchea accords with the vital interests and aspirations of the Kampuchean people and is in full accordance with the principles of the Nonaligned Movement and the UN Charter on the right of states to help each other in self-defense. The presence of these troops is in no circumstances a threat to any state. The Vietnamese volunteer troops remain in Kampuchea at the PRK's request, and will return home at its request.

The Governments of the PRK and the SRV reached the following four-point agreement:

-- The Vietnamese volunteer troops in Kampuchea will leave that country when the threat from Beijing and other forces of reaction disappears, when Thailand's territory is no longer used against the PRK and the Pol Potities and other Khmer reactionaries are stripped of all support, and when peace and security are ensured in Kampuchea, particularly on the Kampuchean-Thai border;

-- A decision on the partial withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteer troops from Kampuchea will be adopted annually on the basis of the current state of security in that country;

-- Following the withdrawal of some of the troops last year, a similar step will be taken this year;

-- In the event of the withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteer troops from Kampuchea being exploited to the detriment of peace and security in Kampuchea, the PRK Government will hold consultations with the SRV Government on this question in the spirit of the existing treaty.

The LPDR assesses highly and welcomes this decision by the PRK and the SRV, regarding it as evidence of the good will of the three Indochinese countries and an important new contribution to the cause of peace and security in Indochina and the stabilization of the Southeast Asian situation.

The PRK Government reaffirms its determination to build an independent, peaceful, nonaligned Kampuchea. The PRK Government states once again that those Kampucheans who are currently cooperating directly or indirectly with the Pol Pot clique, hindering the Kampuchean people's process of rebirth, will be able to enjoy all the rights of PRK citizens, including the right to vote and run in the free elections for which provision is made in the PRK Constitution, provided they break with the Pol Pot clique, refuse to cooperate with it and observe the PRK Constitution. Free elections in Kampuchea could be held in the presence of foreign observers. The LPDR and the SRV assess highly the PRK's just position.

The LPDR, the PRK and the SRV express determination to continue the policy of peace, friendship and cooperation with neighboring countries and all other states. In this connection the three Indochinese countries once again confirm their proposals on concluding a nonaggression treaty with China and the ASEAN countries, proposals aimed at the normalization of relations with those states on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence.

The Indochinese countries continue to call for an international conference on Southeast Asia to resolve the problems of peace and stability in the region.

Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam, the statement stresses, are convinced that through the efforts of all interested parties Southeast Asia, where the tension has been constant for more than 30 years now, will be turned into a zone of peace, stability, friendship and cooperation, will be free from foreign military bases and armed forces and will be safeguarded against outside interference, which accords with the interests and aspirations of the peoples of Southeast Asia and the world.

Summit 'Timely'

LD241323 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 2015 GMT 23 Feb 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Viktor Mikheyev]

[Text] A conference of the leaders of Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam has been held in Vientiane. At a press conference after the conference the text of the statement adopted at it, on the Vietnamese volunteer army in Kampuchea, was read. It points out that the Vietnamese volunteers will be withdrawn from Kampuchean after the threat from outside has been removed and after Thailand stops providing its territory for subversive activity against Kampuchea. Why is this especially relevant? Because the United States is not stopping brazen terrorist attacks against the sovereign states in Southeast Asia.

The latest subversive attack on the territory of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, as is clear from a letter to THE LOS ANGELES TIMES by a participant, retired Colonel James (Gritz), was made in November last year. There are two other signatures to the letter, those of his terrorist colleagues -- (Barry Goldman) [words indistinct] (?the latter,) for atrocities during the U.S. Vietnamese adventure, acquired the name of Doctor Death. According to the latest reports, a group of 16 former U.S. commandos is now undergoing training in Thailand, planning bandit raids on the territory of Laos. So, the conference of the leaders of Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam was very timely indeed.

PRAVDA on Greetings

PM251431 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Feb 83 First Edition p 1

[Text] To Comrade Le Duan, general secretary of the Vietnam Communist Party Central Committee

To Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the Lao Council of Ministers

To Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the Kampuchean Council of State

We warmly greet the participants in the conference of the leaders of the SRV, Laos and Kampuchea.

The meeting of the supreme leaders of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea acquires special significance now, when imperialist circles and their accomplices are pursuing a line toward fueling international tension and when outside forces are trying to provoke clashes among the Southeast Asian states. This policy is opposed by the Indochinese countries' course of creating an atmosphere of fruitful cooperation and good-neighborliness among all the states in that part of the world.

The Soviet Union expresses full solidarity with that constructive course, which is aimed at reducing tension in the region and toward establishing the principles of peaceful coexistence between the countries of Indochina and the ASEAN states.

The USSR's solidarity with the three Indochinese states reflects the commonality of socialism's high ideals and our determination to struggle jointly against imperialism and for peace, security and social progress.

We wish your conference successful and fruitful work in the name of the further cohesion of the three peoples of Indochina and for the good of peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

[Signed] CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, USSR Council of Ministers

IZVESTIYA on Results

PM252133 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Feb 83 Morning Edition p 4

[S. Agafonov "International Commentary": "In the Interests of Good-Neighborliness"]

[Text] A summit conference of the three countries of Indochina has been held in Vientiane, capital of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

The Vientiane conference is the first conference in the history of the three countries of Indochina at the highest party and state level. The meeting of the leaders of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea assumes special significance now that imperialist circles and their accomplices are pursuing a line of fueling international tension and external forces are provoking friction among the states of Southeast Asia. The countries of Indochina are countering this policy with one of creating an atmosphere of fruitful cooperation and good-neighborliness among all the states in that part of the world.

Important documents were adopted at the conference of the three countries' top leaders -- the declaration of the summit conference of Kampuchea, Vietnam and Laos and a statement on the presence of Vietnamese volunteer troops in Kampuchea.

The meeting participants' joint statement touched on a wide range of questions connected with the further development and strengthening of cooperation among the fraternal countries and formulated the basic principles on which their relations with each other are built. The declaration points out that all questions of relations among the three countries must be resolved through negotiations on the basis of mutual respect for each other's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and noninterference in internal affairs and in the spirit of mutual understanding and respect for the just interests of each of the countries and the common interests of the peoples of Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam.

The principles on which relations between Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea are built and which are expounded in the declaration of the Vientiane meeting confirm the three countries' consistent desire to develop fruitful contacts. At the same time they attest to the total groundlessness of the allegations of hostile propaganda about some intention on the part of the states of Indochina to transform themselves into a "military bloc," to form a "confederation" and so forth.

The foreign policy section of the joint statement clearly defines the threat of the Indochina countries' policy in the international arena -- it is a policy of peace, friendship and cooperation. Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea side with the socialist countries, nonaligned states and all peace-loving and progressive forces in the struggle for the consolidation of peace, against the arms race and for disarmament and international detente.

The relaxation of tension in Southeast Asia and the creation of an atmosphere of fruitful dialogue and good-neighborliness in the region -- this is the principled policy of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea in Southeast Asia. The Vientiane meeting reaffirmed the proposal to convene an international conference on Southeast Asia to resolve the region's urgent problems. As the meeting participants' joint statements points out, the countries of Indochina and ASEAN must resolve all questions among themselves through negotiations in the spirit of peaceful coexistence, not permitting external interference or allowing their countries' territory to be used for hostile actions against other states. Joint efforts should be aimed at creating a zone of peace, stability and cooperation in Southeast Asia. Despite China's subversive actions toward Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, the countries of Indochina once again voiced readiness to normalize relations with the PRC and to sign a nonaggression treaty with it.

In the statement on the presence of Vietnamese volunteer troops in Kampuchea the Governments of the SRV and the People's Republic of Kampuchea [PRK] clearly formulated the terms for a full withdrawal of the volunteer units from Kampuchean territory. They are the removal of the threat of the PRK from reactionary forces, the cessation of the use of Thai territory against Kampuchea and the ensuring of the PRK's security, particularly on the border with Thailand. The decision on a gradual withdrawal of certain contingents of Vietnamese volunteer forces from Kampuchea was evidence of the good will of the peoples of Indochina. As is known, some of the Vietnamese volunteers have already been withdrawn from Kampuchea, in 1982. It was stated at the Vientiane meeting that an additional withdrawal of part of the volunteer troops will be made this year. In the future such decisions will be adopted annually, taking the state of Kampuchea's security into account. It is important to point out that the gradual withdrawal of volunteer units from Kampuchea is being carried out despite the fact that there is still no reaction to these initiatives. The actions of Kampuchea and Vietnam have been dictated by the desire to ease tension in the region and to display readiness to hold a constructive dialogue. At the same time it must be emphasized that the decision to withdraw certain contingents reflects Kampuchea's growing might and the strengthening of people's power in the country.

The Vientiane summit conference was an important event in the development of the political situation in Southeast Asia. The Vientiane meeting's decisions are of exceptionally great significance for strengthening peace and stability in the region. As the greetings message from the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers to the meeting participants pointed out, the Soviet Union voices full solidarity with the conservative policy aimed at easing tension in the region and establishing the principles of peaceful coexistence between the countries of Indochina and the ASEAN states. The USSR's solidarity with the three Indochina states reflects the commonality of socialism's lofty ideals and our determination to struggle jointly against imperialism and for peace, security and social progress.

Truong Chinh Cited

PM281129 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Feb 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "On the Basis of Principles of Good-Neighborly Relations"]

[Text] Hanoi, 25 Feb -- The participants in a mass meeting held in the Vietnamese capital have expressed full support for and approval of the results of the Vientiane summit meeting of the leaders of the SRV, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the People's Republic of Kampuchea. The meeting was attended by Truong Chinh, member of the Vietnam Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the SRV State Council; Pham Van Dong, member of the Vietnam Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers; and other leading officials.

The Vientiane conference, Truong Chinh stated, is of great historic significance. It determined the principles of the cooperation between Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea which guarantees the victories of each country in economic development and the defense of its independence and is an important factor of peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

The Indochina states, Truong Chinh noted, have yet again affirmed their solidarity with the Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist community and with all revolutionary forces in the world.

The Vietnam Communist Party, the SRV Government and the Vietnamese people, the head of state stressed, are fully determined to implement the historic decisions of the Vientiane summit conference and to contribute actively to the further development of friendship and cooperation between Indochina's countries and peoples.

Hoang Quoc Viet, chairman of the Presidium of the Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee, delivered a report on the conference documents at the meeting.

Statement on SRV Troops

LD251034 Moscow TASS in English 1852 GMT 24 Feb 83

[Text] Vientiane February 24 TASS -- The summit meeting of the leaders of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, which was held here, passed a statement on the stay of Vietnamese voluntary troops in Kampuchea.

As is pointed out in the document, after the collapse of the Pol Pot regime Beijing continued its hostile policy against the three countries of Indochina. Thailand's territory is used as a base for the supply of Pol Pot and other reactionary gangs which penetrate Kampuchea and hamper the effort by the people of that country for national revival.

Under these conditions and in conformity with the treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea requested the Vietnamese voluntary troops to stay in Kampuchea, assist the people of Kampuchea and its Armed Forces in the construction effort and defence of the country. The presence of voluntary Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea meets the aspirations of the Kampuchean people and fully accords with the principles of the Non-Aligned Movement and the UN Charter as regards the right of states to assist each other in self-defence. The presence of these troops by no means constitutes a threat to any state.

The governments of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam have reached agreement that the Vietnamese voluntary troops in Kampuchea will leave that country after the threat from Beijing and other reactionary forces disappears, when Thailand's territory is no longer used against the People's Republic of Kampuchea, and Pol Pot and other Khmer reactionaries are fully deprived of their support. Proceeding from the concrete state of security in Kampuchea, a decision will be taken annually on partial withdrawal of Vietnamese voluntary troops from Kampuchea.

The Lao People's Democratic Republic, the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam are expressing determination to carry on the policy of peace, friendship and cooperation with the neighbour countries and all other states. In this connection the three countries of Indochina again reaffirmed their proposal to conclude non-aggression treaties with China and the ASEAN member-countries aimed at normalizing relations with those states on the basis of the peaceful co-existence principles. The countries of Indochia favour, as before, an international conference on Southeast Asia to resolve the problems of peace and stability in the region.

SRV'S DEFENSE MINISTER HAILS SOVIET AID

PM242137 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Feb 83 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Awards Presented"]

[Text] Hanoi, 23 Feb -- Soviet medals "For Strengthening Combat Collaboration" were presented here to a large group of leading workers of the Vietnam Communist Party [VCP] and the Vietnamese state and generals and officers of the Vietnamese People's Army. They were given this award for their services in strengthening combat collaboration and miliatry cooperation between the USSR Armed Forces and the Vietnamese People's Army.

Speaking on behalf of the recipients, Army General Van Tien Dung, member of the VCP Central Committee Politburo and SRV minister of national defense, expressed deep gratitude to the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government for this high assessment of their labor and for the sincere support and tremendous, effective aid to Vietnam. Under the VCP's leadership, he said, Vietham's People's Armed Forces will do all they can to ensure the further steady development of fraternal friendship and combat cohesion with the heroic Soviet Armed Forces and the armies of the fraternal socialist countries.

CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE SENDS GREETINGS TO PCI

LD010934 Moscow TASS in English 0845 GMT 1 Mar 83

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Moscow March 1 TASS -- The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union has sent a message of greetings to the 16th congress of the Italian Communist Party [PCI].

"Your congress acquires special significance in the present-day situation, the message says. "The entire capitalist world, including Italy, is gripped by a profound crisis which has affected all spheres of the life of society -- from economy to the institutes of power. The international situation has considerably aggravated: U.S. imperialism, forces of reaction and aggression, seeking to stop social progress, are heightening tension, escalating the arms race, and threatening to place mankind before the menace of a nuclear holocaust.

It is either the peoples will achieve suspension of the confrontation, a turn to the resumption of detente and curbing of arms, or imperialism will succeed in imposing on the world another round in the arms race -- which is served, in particular, by the deployment of new American nuclear missiles in the territory of Western Europe, including in Italy -- which will enhance the war menace. Under these conditions, special responsibility rests with the working class and its vanguard -- the communists."

"As to our party, the Soviet Union, its people and its government," the CPSU Central Committees message points out, "we are doing and will continue to do our utmost to uphold the cause of peace, ensure security of peoples and stop the arms race. We are fully resolved to press for the implementation of the recent proposals and initiatives of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries which, in our opinion, show a real way out of the present situation. At the same time, we are prepared to consider any other initiatives and proposals directed at improving the world situation."

The message stresses that "the Soviet Communists regard support for all who struggle for peace and social progress, against the imperialist export of counter-revolution as their international duty. Within this framework we are as always ready to develop voluntary comradely cooperation and solidarity with all communist parties on the basis of the life-tested ideas of Marx-Engels-Lenin with strict observance of equality and sovereignty of each party, non-interference in internal affairs, respect for the choice of the ways of struggling for progressive social changes, for socialism." [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0900 GMT on 1 March carries a report on the CPSU Central Committee greetings to the PCI and adds the following at this point: The CPSU Central Committee wishes the 16th PCI Congress and all communists in that country successes in the cause of defending the interests of the working class and of the entire working people of Italy, in the struggle for peace and security for the peoples.]

FRG POLICE MEASURES, YOUTH UNREST NOTED

DW272243 Moscow in German to Germany 1600 GMT 24 Feb 83

[Aleksandr Mikhaylov commentary]

[Text] When the grenade shot from a special rifle exploded and the rubber bullets went in all directions, Hesse's Interior Minister Roman Herzog was happy.

And indeed, he could show that he was not only better than many of his colleagues in his own country but also better than some experts abroad. Not even the troops and police in Ulster who disperse demonstrators have such perfect rubber projectiles. According to West German press reports the West German police also have the poison gas CS which causes blindness and paralysis. Police experts hold the view that this club is indispensable for storming buildings. It is important, they say, to use it in sufficient quantities. [Words indistinct] the police are forgiven all sins in advance regarding any future victims.

The question of who are the people against whom the federal police are armed [words indistinct]. Who is to be smoked out by nerve gas and who is to be hit by rubber projectiles? Who are those enemies of the state and the law? Who is to be dealt a blow? The answers to these questions probably lie in the social situation which is taking shape in this country, in particular following the assumption of power by the new government coalition -- the social situation especially in the camp of the West German working youth.

The CDU election platform which has been published by almost all FRG newspapers says that Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl personally will make sure that all young people receive a proper training and a job. Unfortunately, however, the measures taken by the government prove the contrary. The policy of the red pencil affects above all those means which were to be allocated for the creation of additional jobs and training centers for young people.

The weekly DER SPIEGEL writes that everybody will have to pay even more, if the present government stays in power, and that measures for further housing-rent increases, the freeze of old-age pensions and unemployment benefits, the cutback of eduational expenditures as well as tax increases have already been planned. It is known that the FRG youth previously very energetically protected against the housing situation which they consider as being intolerable. The new housing-rent law passed by the present government in December last year contains many paragraphs which allow landlords to intensify their unrestrained arbitrariness and boost housing-rents which are high anyway even more. According to DER SPIEGEL, housing-rents in the FRG have increased 30 percent as against 1976. In view of the drastic increase of consumer goods and food prices a halfway acceptable apartment becomes an excessively costly luxury for many, in particular young families.

It is no wonder, therefore, that in many FRG cities unrest in developing among young people, above all among young workers and students who refuse to silently put up with the lot intended for them. That obviously is also the reason why Hesse's Minister Herzog before the press has praised poison gas and rubber projectiles. All this is intended to intimidate the young people.

PRAVDA ON MISSILES ISSUE IN FRG ELECTIONS

LD261410 Moscow TASS in English 1129 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 26 TASS -- That the Pentagon views Western Europe as a "theatre of operations" is not a propaganda phrase but a fact, writes PRAVDA Bonn correspondent Yuliy Yakhontov. President Reagan and Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger discuss among their associates ever more often the question of conducting a "limited" nuclear war and the possibility of winning such a war. According to the scenarios discussed, in case of a conflict in Europe, Americans will use their nuclear weapons deployed in NATO countries without resorting to intercontinental missiles and thus hoping that the USA will not be hit by a retaliatory strike.

The author notes that NATO's "dual" decision adopted in December 1979 is now regarded as a "historic error" not only by leading politicians of the Social Democratic Party, such as, for instance, Willy Brandt or Egon Bahr. The calls to analyse soberly the situation, to study thoroughly the question before making the final decision whether or not there shall be missiles on West German land sound ever louder even the ranks of the CDU-CSU to say nothing of the Free Democratic Party.

But by all indications the main concern of the top leaders of the ruling group CDU-CSU is how to distract the population from the anti-war struggle, to deprive it of the opportunity and time for a sober assessment of the situation. West Germans are exposed to a great volume of information and figures. It is sought to instill in their minds the allegations about "Soviet superiority", to intimidate them with the alleged "military threat" of the USSR, "PRAVDA's" correspondent writes.

But as less time remains to go before the planned deployment of missiles, the resistance to the militaristic plans of the Pentagon and its NATO supporters in Western Europe grows stronger, and the demand is mounting that the United States at last assume a realistic, constructive stand at the talks with the USSR in Geneva, the author sums up. Peace and security not only of the West German population but Europe as a whole largely depends on how the "missile question" is decided in the FRG. Sanity must prevail.

FRG'S BRANDT FAVORS CUTBACK IN MISSILES

LD271815 Moscow TASS in English 1752 GMT 27 Feb 83

[Text] Bonn February 27 TASS -- Willy Brandt, chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany, who spoke in the city of Schwabisch hall, pointed out that the policy of Social Democrats was aimed to achieve such a state that the number of missiles in Europe be reduced and not increased. We wish that the voters give us the mandate to pursue the policy which would make unnecessary the deployment of U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles, he said. We come out for the USSR and the U.S. to reach an agreement at the Geneva talks on the limitation of nuclear armaments in Europe.

Mentioning the recent statement of the chairman of the Christian Social Union Franz-Josef Strauss who asserted that it was necessary to psychologically prepare the population of West Germany for the deployment of U.S. missiles, Brandt stressed that it was necessary to do just the opposite -- to devote all the spiritual, political and moral energy to make unnecessary the deployment of new missiles on West German soil.

The federal secretary of the youth organization of the Social Democratic Party of Germany "Young Socialists" Wegner strongly criticised the foreign policy course of the Reagan administration. He spoke in Bonn at the conference of representatives of the socialist and social democratic organizations of a number of West European countries which opened there.

"Those who, together with Reagan, advocate a certain 'zero option', can only hamper the success of the Geneva talks on the limitation of nuclear armaments in Europe. Those who, together with Reagan, put the interests of the U.S. military industrial complex above the needs of their own population, those who, together with Reagan, give preference to the deployment of new nuclear-missile systems in Europe, thus ignoring the interests of the security of Europeans, have no right to say that they strive for peace," Wegner pointed out.

He hailed the initiative of the Swedish Government on the creation in Europe of a zone free from battlefield nuclear weapons and denounced the negative reaction to this initiative on the part of the West German ruling circles.

FRG, USSR EXPERTS DISCUSS DISARMAMENT ISSUES

PM011131 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Feb 83 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Consultations Held"]

[Text] Soviet-West German consultations on arms limitation and disarmament questions were held in Moscow 24-25 February. Taking part were, on the Soviet side, V.G. Komplektov, USSR deputy foreign minister, and Colonel General N.F. Chernov, chief of a directorate of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff, and on the West German side, Ambassador (F. RUT), special envoy of the FRG Government on disarmament questions, Major General H.P. (?Tendeki), leader of the FRG Defense Ministry military policy department, and A. Meyer-Landrut, FRG ambassador to the Soviet Union.

GROMYKO RECEIVES DEPARTING SPANISH AMBASSADOR

LD251342 Moscow TASS in English 1331 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 25 TASS -- Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Foreign Minister of the USSR Andrey Gromyko today received the Ambassador of Spain in the USSR Luis Guillermo Perinat y Elio in connection with the completion of his mission and the forthcoming departure from Moscow.

Questions of bilateral Soviet-Spanish relations from the viewpoint of the existing possibilities of their further development in various spheres, including political contacts, were touched upon.

Andrey Gromyko emphasised that the Soviet Union had invariably been coming out for establishment of cooperation with Spain in directions where this meets the interests of both sides, for mutual actions in the interests of peace and security in Europe, termination of the arms race and in the interests of detente.

GRECHKOV EXAMINES U.S.-ISRAELI AIMS IN LEBANON

LD251942 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 25 Feb 83

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program presented by Nikolay Grechkov]

[Text] Washington has recently embarked on several maneuvers which are being depicted as firm steps aimed at settling the situation in Lebanon. President Reagan, and then Secretary of Defense Weinberger declared the readiness of the U.S. Administration to take all the necessary measures to advance the Lebanese-Israeli talks, which have reached an impasse. In a word, there is much fuss; therefore, let us examine the essence of the U.S. efforts.

If we leave aside all the propaganda decorations and the beautiful words about peace, the main thing in the efforts of Reagan and Weinberger is the widening of the so-called multinational force in Lebanon, the backbone of which are the U.S. Marines. This force is stationed in the Beirut Airport region beside the Israeli occupation forces. U.S. warships are deployed nearby.

On Thursday, Weinberger said that what is intended now is not only to enlarge the so-called multinational force, foremost the U.S. contingent, but also to move them toward southern Lebanon. The question here is: Why? Weinberger said it is to guarantee Israel's northern border. He added: These guarantees will be secured with the most effective means. Notice, dear listeners, this expression: with the most effective means.

The United States intends to work for the security of Israel but not for the interests of Lebanon's sovereignty and territorial integrity, which are endangered by Tel Aviv's aggression. And now the Israeli occupiers continue to consolidate their presence in Lebanon, declaring openly that they intend to maintain their control of southern Lebanon to guarantee Israel's security. What is the result: to guarantee Israel's security, not only Israeli forces remain in Lebanon, but also American. In other words, instead of the evacuation of the Israeli forces from Lebanon there will be a duel occupation of this sovereign Arab country. Is there anything more clear: Under the pretext of guaranteeing Israel's security, Israeli-Zionist expansionism has led to the occupation of many Arab territories and their settlement. And now, using the same false pretext, the United States wants to widen its military presence in the Middle East to include Lebanon, in addition to Sinai.

In the light of this [word indistinct], what is being said about American-Israeli differences. The whole world knows that those alleged differences have not prevented -- rather they have assisted -- the United States and Israel from achieving their piratical and anti-Arab policies.

If we talk about American-Israeli actions aginst Lebanon, it is only possible to talk about long-term collusion directed at the elimination of Lebanon as an independent and sovereign state. It goes without saying that the United States and Israel are astonishingly united in this collusion in their attempt to eliminate all obstacles preventing the realization of their anti-Lebanese designs.

What is designed in the first place are moves to take Syria out of the struggle. It is known that Syria has peace forces in Lebanon within the framework of the Arab deterrent force. The firm and clear stand of Syria in the face of Israel does not suit them. And at another level, Syria has repeatedly announced its readiness to take its forces out of Lebanon once the forces of the Israeli occupies leave. But this choice does not suit Tel Aviv and Washington. Therefore, the situation in Al-Biqa' is becoming tense and continuous threats of war against Syria are being made in Tel Aviv. Washington flirts with Tel Aviv by bountifully giving it arms and stirring up an anti-Syrian campaign because of the latter's measures aimed at consolidating its air defense.

These are the actions of the sides to the American-Israeli conspiracy, which exposes not only Lebanon and the other Arab countries to deadly danger, but also the cause of peace and security in the whole Middle East. Surely the time has come to finally end this playing with fire in the region, in which sufficient blood has been shed, enough destruction has been wrought and where hundreds of thousands of people have become homeless.

UNITED STATES 'URGING' ISRAEL TO PROVOKE SYRIA

LD261722 Moscow TASS in English 1625 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 26 (TASS) -- TASS commentator Vladimir Kudelin writes:

The malicious anti-Syrian campaign launched by Tel Aviv with the obvious blessing of Washington does not subside. Having used as a pretext for unleashing it the Syrian Government's legitimate measures to strengthen the country's air defence system, the Israeli aggressor threatens Damascus with "delivering a strike" and with "cruelly punishing" that sovereign Arab country.

It is significant that reports about brazen blackmail and attempts, to which the Begin government resorts in order to intimidate the Syrian leadership, are readily picked up and spread worldwide by propagandist media and news agencies. Thus, the UPI, having quoted a "denial" by new Israeli Defence Minister Arens of the information that he advocated a "preventive strike" at Syria if it continues to strengthen its air defence, at the same time with reference to "Israeli defence experts" quoted their statement in the newspaper JERUSALEM POST that there is a great probability of a conflict with Syria by the middle of spring of this year.

The meaning of the increased spreading by U.S. propagandist services of the Israeli "hawks" impudent threats and "warnings" to Syria is simple and single-valued, Washington, expecting in the obtaining strained situation to realise its imperial ambitions to consolidate U.S. military presence in the region, is obviously urging its Middle Eastern puppet Israel on to an armed provocation against the Syrian Arab Republic. Tel Aviv, too, in its unbridled attacks on Syria, obediently follows in the footsteps of the patron from across the ocean, although there is no doubt that any armed attack by the Israelis against the Syrian people will be fittingly repulsed and the aggressor will sustain a deserved punishment. The Americans themselves, who nevertheless are busy spreading Israeli threats for obviously instigatory purposes, know this, incidentally, quite well.

SYRIAN CP WARNS OF NEW ISRAELI 'AGGRESSION'

PM251331 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Feb 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report under the rubric "In the Fraternal Parties": "Call To Rally"]

[Text] Damascus, 22 Feb -- The Syrian Communist Party [SCP] has appealed to the country's people to rally more closely in the face of the danger of Israeli aggression against Syria.

The Tel Aviv military, an SCP Central Committee statement published here notes, is concentrating troops and combat hardware in various parts of Lebanon in preparation for an armed strike against Syrian troops in the Al-Biqa' Valley who form part of the pan-Arab peacekeeping forces in Lebanon and an invasion of Syrian territory. Israel's military preparations are being implemented in full accordance with the strategic agreement concluded between Washington and Tel Aviv.

U.S. imperialism and the Israeli rulers are advancing various pretexts for perpetrating a new armed adventure, the document says. The Western press launched a malicious anti-Syrian campaign after Syria's adoption of measures to strengthen its defense potential.

This legitimate step to defend national independence was seen as some kind of "threat to peace and security in the region." The true aim of the new aggressive plot, the statement notes, is to attempt to break Syria, deprive it of the opportunity to continue to pursue an anti-imperialist, patriotic course, prevent the creation of an independent national Palestinian state, drag Arab states into capitulatory agreements of the Camp David type through the notorious "Reagan plan" and foist a "security agreement" on Lebanon, trampling on its independence and turning it into a U.S.-Israeli protectorate.

These dangerous plans constitute a serious threat not only to Syria but to other Arab states as well, the statement notes. U.S. imperialism is seeking to gain control of oil sources in the region and deploy the "Radio Deployment Force" there.

Syria's staunchness, its courageous stance in the face of aggressive intrigues and its rejection of the "Reagan plan" are important factors in opposing the implementation of the plans of imperialism and its accomplices, the document notes. Syria is not alone in its struggle. On its side are the national patriotic forces and people's masses of all Arab countries and the Palestinian resistance movement. Syria is supported by the forces of progress and freedom in the world and by the friendly Soviet Union, which gives the Syrian people every possible help and support in accordance with the Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation concluded between the two states.

Syrian Communists, like all the country's patriots, express their gratitude to the great Soviet Union for its effective assistance to our people's national liberation struggle against the aggressive, expansionist plots U.S. imperialism and Zionism.

PRAVDA NOTES RELEASE OF DETAINEES IN EGYPT

PM281141 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Feb 83 First Edition p 5

[Report by PRAVDA correspondent V. Peresada: "Decision of the Authorities"]

[Text] Cairo, 25 Feb -- Following a decision by the judicial authorities, a further 34 persons arrested in the fall of 1981 in connection with the assassination of President As-Sadat have been released from prison. They were behind bars accused of belonging to a religious-political organization which, according to the official version, was preparing for a coup d'etat. Among those released was the father of Khalid al-Islambuli, who headed the group of men who carried out the attack on As-Sadat.

According to press reports, there is at present a cessation of trials of the overwhelming majority of those arrested on political grounds before and since the assassination.

MOZAMBIQUE PRESIDENT ARRIVES, MET BY GROMYKO

LD010948 Moscow TASS in English 0925 GMT 1 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 1 TASS -- Marshal Samora Moises Machel, chairman of the Frelimo Party and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, arrived in the Soviet capital today for a friendly working visit at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Soviet Government.

At the airport, bedecked with the state flags of the two countries, the guest was welcomed by member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Foreign Minister of the USSR Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Konstantin Chernenko, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, First Vice-President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Vasiliy Kuznetsov, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Boris Ponomarev, and other officials.

GROMYKO RECEIVES MALI FOREIGN MINISTER 28 FEB

LD281217 Moscow TASS in English 1208 GMT 28 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 28 TASS -- Andrey Gromyko, a member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR foreign minister, today received Alioune Blondin Beye, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation of the Republic of Mali who stopped over in Moscow en route to New Delhi where he will attend the non-aligned summit conference.

During their friendly conversation Andrey Gromyko spoke highly of the Non-Aligned Movement's role in enhancing peace and international security and averting world thermonuclear catastrophe. He emphasised that solidarity with the states and peoples that have cast off the colonial yoke and are upholding their independence was and remains one of the fundamental principles of Soviet foreign policy. Alioune Blondin Beye expressed gratitude to the Soviet Union for its constant and consistent support for the developing countries' struggle to consolidate their national independence and sovereignty.

Issues of bilateral Soviet-Mali relations were also touched upon during the conversation.

TANZANIAN PARTY DELEGATION'S VISIT REPORTED

PM241033 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Feb 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Familiarization With CPSU Experience"]

[Text] A delegation of the Revolutionary Party of Tanzania (CCM) headed by (P. Sozigva), member of the Politburo and secretary of the party's Control and Discipline Commission, was in the Soviet Union 13 through 20 February at the CPSU Central Committee's invitation. The delegation was received in the CPSU Central Committee party Control Committee, the CPSU Central Auditing Commission and the USSR People's Control Committee, had talks in the Georgian CP Central Committee, the Adzhar Obkom and the Kutaisi Gorkom, visited industrial and agricultural enterprises and familiarized itself with the work of party control and people's control organs.

The guests from Tanzania gave a high assessment of the Soviet people's labor achievements and noted the significance of the CPSU's experience for the CCM's activity in the sphere of party building.

PRAVDA ON'HARARE FRONTLINE STATES CONFERENCE

PM251505 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Feb 83 First Edition p 5

[Mikhail Zenovich "Commentator's Column": "From a Common Stance"]

[Text] Luanda [no date given] -- A conference of leaders of the "frontline" states -- Angola, Botswana, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Tanzania -- has been held in Harare, the Zimbabwean capital. Also participating in its work were leaders of the South West African People's Organization and the South African African National Congress. The conference participants discussed the military-political situation in southern Africa, specifically, a common policy toward the racist South African regime, as well as problems of Namibian independence. A joint stance was also formulated for the upcoming nonaligned states' conference in Delhi.

The conference participants stated that there has recently been a sharp intensification of South African belligerence. The racist regime's leading figures, headed by Prime Minister P. Botha, have officially proclaimed their inalienable "right" to give military and financial assistance to the bandit groupings operating against Angola, Mozambique, Zimbabwe and other "frontline" countries. Pretoria is thus trying retrospectively to legitimize its longstanding policy of destabilizing those states.

There have been reports of the racist regime's plans to deploy U.S. medium-range missiles with nuclear warheads on South African territory. Work is also being carried out in South Africa on new types of chemical weapons of mass destruction. All this, the newspaper A JORNAL DE ANGOLA writes, reaffirms the scale of the threat hanging over the continent's independent states. Pretoria's aggressiveness, it is stressed here, is the direct outcome of the so-called "constructive rapprochement" policy and essentially of the deal between the South African authorities and the current Washington administration.

While taking measures to defend their independence and sovereignty and calling on world public opinion to strengthen solidarity with the struggle against the threat to peace and security in this part of the world, the African leaders are also ready to use diplomatic methods to resolve conflict situations and, in particular, the problem of Namibian independence. However, the path to such solutions is blocked by the policy of Pretoria, which, in particular, is demanding the withdrawal of the Cuban internationalist units from Angola. This demand is overt interference in a sovereign state's internal affairs.

The "frontline" countries' leaders and public give warning of the need to step up vigilance with regard to the South African racist regime and the imperialist forces which support it.

REAGAN ANNOUNCES INCREASE IN FUNDS FOR EL SALVADOR

LD282131 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1929 GMT 28 Feb 83

[Report by TASS correspondent Y. Yegorov]

[Text] Washington, 28 Feb (TASS) -- President Reagan has held an urgent conference with congressional leadership from both the Republican and Democratic Parties at which he announced his decision to increase military aid to El Salvador in the current fiscal year by $60 million. These funds will be used to cover the cost of sending large new consignments of arms and ammunition, spare parts for helicopters and other military equipment to the pro-American junta in El Salvador, which is committing genocide against its own people.

The recent successes of the Salvadoran patriots, who have severely shaken crack units of punitive troops which were trained by the Americans, have caused serious alarm in Washington and above all in the Pentagon. As H. Baker, the leader of the Republicans in the Senate, told correspondents, President Reagan stressed at the meeting that the outcome of the armed struggle in El Salvador "affects the national interests of the United States" and that the Salvadoran regime will find itself in a very difficult situation without an increase in U.S. military assistance.

For the current 1983 fiscal year the administration asked Congress to grant $63 million in military assistance to the junta in El Salvador. However, the congressmen only endorsed appropriations to the value of $26 million. For the next fiscal year, 1984, the administration has asked for as much as $86 million for these purposes.

According to a statement by Secretary of Defesne Weinberger, the administration intends to take the money from emergency funds if the Congress takes a firm stand. These funds, which were established in 1961, were widely used to finance U.S. military operations during U.S. aggression in Indochina. In 1981 the Reagan administration used them twice in order to give urgent military assistance to the junta in El Salvador.

Anikin Commentary

LD282157 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2014 GMT 28 Feb 83

[Commentary by Viktor Anikin]

[Text] It is known that the U.S. Congress has already confirmed a grant $26 million in military aid to El Salvador this year. Now we have this new report on the plan of the White House to increase it more than threefold. It says in the dispatch that the Reagan administration is ready to transact this financial operation either at the expense of aid programs to other countries or by turning to special funds set aside for unforeseen circumstances. In this way Congress will be bypassed as questions of delivering additional consignments of military equipment and arms to El Salvador would probably have caused hot arguments in Congress.

But such acts of cunning do not change the essence of things. The White House intends to treble the strength of the war machine of the rotten regime. In order to justify itself in the eyes of the U.S. public, the Reagan administration has carried out a massive psychological campaign on its citizens. In January it gave an assurance that allegedly substantial progress has been achieved in El Salvador in the sphere of observing human rights. Here the White House quoted an official report which says that on average there were 200 people a month in the last 6 months of 1982 who fell victim to political violence -- murders and disappearances.

Some sort of change for the better concerning human rights in El Salvador was also discerned by the U.S. permanent representative at the UN Kirkpatrick, and she was not slow in reporting this to Americans following the completion of her propaganda trip of Central America. However, not everyone in the United States believes in the speeches coming out of the White House in defense of the Salvadoran regime. Opposition to Washington's plans to turn El Salvador into a new Vietnam is growing also in the capitol. I do not think that we should continue giving military aid to El Salvador, stated Congressman Sawyer. U.S. money is flowing in there as if into a pipe. The reason that the Washington legislators are disappointed is the corruption and disintegration reigning in El Salvador in the upper echelons of power and the military successes achieved by the patriotic forces in the struggle to overthrow the anti-popular regime.

KAPTO-LED CPSU DELEGATION VISITS BOLIVIA

Meets With PCB Leader

PM241027 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Feb 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Meeting in La Paz"]

[Text] La Paz, 22 Feb -- A CPSU delegation headed by A.S.Kapto, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, which is here at the invitation of the Communist Party of Bolivia (PCB) leadership, has met with members of the PCB Central Committee Political Committee.

Jorge Kolle Cueto, first secretary of the PCB Central Committee, and other party leaders reported on the situation in Bolivia and the Communists' struggle in defense of democratic gains, for the strengthening of the country's independence and the improvement of the working people's life and against attempts by imperialism and local reaction to prevent the Bolivian people from following their freely chosen path.

The Soviet delegation spoke of the CPSU's activity in implementing the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) Plenum and of the Soviet initiatives aimed at strengthening peace and the peoples' security. It expressed fraternal solidarity with the struggle of the PCB, the working class and all the people of Bolivia.

Delegation Ends Visit

PY250153 Moscow in Spanish to Latin America 2300 GMT 24 Feb 83

[Text] A CPSU delegation has ended a visit to Bolivia. This delegation is headed by Aleksandr Kapto, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and secretary of the Ukranian Communist Party Central Committee. The Soviet delegation, which visited Bolivia at the invitation of the Bolivian Communist Party [PCB] board, held meetings with members of the Political Committee of the PCB Central Committee. Jorge Kolle Cueto, first secretary of the PCB Central Committee, briefed the Soviet delegates about the situation in Bolivia, about the PCB struggle for democracy and for the strengthening of the country's independence. The Soviet delegation expressed solidarity with the struggle of the PCB and of all the Bolivian people.

GORDEYEV, TRADE DELEGATION VISIT ARGENTINA

For Buenos Aires radio and TELAM coverage of the visit to Argentine of a Soviet Foreign Trade Ministry delegation led by Soviet Deputy Foreign Trade Minister Boris Gordeyev, see the Argentine section of the 25 February Latin America DAILY REPORT.

CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE ON SERVICES PLAN, WORKERS

Social Service Shortfalls 'Intolerable'

LD251826 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee has adopted a resolution on measures for ensuring fulfillment of the plans for the construction of housing, and for social and consumer service facilities.

It is pointed out in the resolution that, in keeping with the social program defined by the 26th CPSU Congress, residential, cultural, and consumer service facility construction in our country work is being carried out on a wide scale. Since the start of the current 5-year plan a total of more than 210 million square meters of residential housing has been commissioned; the housing has become better-appointed; the network of general education schools, children's preschool establishments, hospitals and polyclinics has been expanded. At the same time, the work being done in this direction still does not correspond entirely to the requirements of the party. A considerable number of the working people need their housing conditions improved. Because of the lack of housing, newly created production capacities are not everywhere assured of cadres, especially in the regions of Siberia and the Far East.

The CPSU Central Committee considers as intolerable the nonfulfillment of plan targets for the construction of residential housing. Plans for housing, cultural and amenity construction are not being fulfilled in the Turkmen, Tajik, Moldavian, and Kirghiz SSRs or in a number of autonomous republics, krays and oblasts of the Russian Federation, the Ukraine and Kazakhstan.

As is pointed out in the decision, many ministries and departments of the USSR, central committees of communist parties and councils of ministers of union republics, kraykoms, and obkoms of the party, and executive committees of the soviets of people's deputies, tolerate the nonfulfillment of plans for the construction of housing and social amenities, and fail to give a sharp and principled assessment of instances of failure to meet the tasks laid down.

Serious concern is aroused by the low quality of construction and finishing work. Great responsibility for unsatisfactory fulfillment of plans is borne by the collegiums, and personally by the ministers, and of those construction ministries which are weak in dealing with housing and civic construction and who do not consider it a matter of primary importance. Attention is drawn to the need for a considerable improvement in the construction of housing and social amenities in rural areas, particularly in the Nonchernozem Zone of the RSFSR

The CPSU Central Committee demands heads of ministries and departments, and council of ministers of union republics, to radically change their attitude to housing and civil construction, and the drawing up and implementation of measures ensuring the commissioning of residential housing, municipal and social and consumer-service projects in the planned volume; to considerably improve the utilization of the existing capacities for large-panel housing construction, to persistently raise the quality of construction; to resolutely prevent instances of housing and amenities being accepted with work unfinished.

USSR Gosplan, USSR Gossnab, the USSR Minister of Ferrous Metallurgy, the USSR Ministry of the Timber and Paper Industry and other ministries should as a first priority provide timber, metal products, linoleum, sanitary equipment and other forms of material resources to construction organizations engaged in housing and civic construction. Each instance of failure to meet the housing and civic construction projects timetable should be looked upon as a serious breach of party and state discipline.

Party organizations are called upon to step up mass political work among builders, to achieve better results from socialist competition, to achieve the mass introduction of team subcontracting, and of the experience of leading collectives and production innovators.

The text of the CPSU Central Committee decision will be published in the central press.

Praises Volgograd Plant Workers

PM251107 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Feb 83 Second Edition p 1

[CPSU Central Committee message: "Congratulations on Your Labor Victory!"]

[Text] To the workers, engineering and technical personnel and clerical staff of the F.E. Dzerzhinskiy Volgograd tractor plant production association.

Dear comrades!

The CPSU Central Committee cordially congratulates your glorious collective on a great victory -- the production of its 2 millionth tractor. It is significant that this new page in Volgograd tractor builders' biography has been opened at a time when the Soviet people are celebrating the 40th anniversary of the legendary Battle of Stalingrad.

The Stalingrad tractor plant was the first such plant to be built during the 5-year plans, and it is a plant that toils. Its history is inextricably linked with the socialist transformation of the country's agriculture on the basis of Lenin's brilliant cooperative plan. Your tractors tilled the fields of the first kolkhozes and plowed virgin land, and are now engaged in the nationwide task of implementing the USSR Food Program.

The Stalingrad tractor plant is a plant that fights. The weapons of victory in the Great Patriotic War were forged in its shops and, together with the men of the Soviet Army, the tractor builders firmly blocked the enemy's path.

At the present stage your collective, together with all workers in agricultural machine building, is resolving the complex and crucial tasks incolved in accelerating agriculture's further retooling. A special concern of your must be to put rapidly into production new, high-performance tractors. The qualtiy of machinery produced must be persistently improved; The production of this machinery must be made more efficient; A high-standard of organization must be displayed in each sphere of work, and production and labor discipline must be enhanced in every possible way.

The CPSU Central Committee is fully confident that Volgograd tractor builders will continue to be in the vanguard of the battle to fulfill the 26th CPSU Congress decisions and implement the party's current agrarian policy and the USSR's Historic Food Program.

We wish you, dear comrades, further labor successes, good health and personal happiness.

CPSU Central Committee

RECENT LEADER APPEARANCES: ACTIVITIES REPORTED

Antonov Attends Industry Session

PM250853 Moscow TRUD in Russian 24 Feb 83 p 1

[TASS report: "Sector Tasks Discussed"]

[Text] An enlarged session of the Ministry of the Automotive Industry Collegium and the Motor Vehicle, Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building Workers Trade Union Central Committee Presidium took place on 22 February.

Automotive Industry Minister V.N. Polyakov delivered a report on the results of the sector's work last year and the tasks involved in fulfilling the 1983 plan in the light of the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) Plenum decisions and the instructions in Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's speech at it.

The collegium session was attended by A.K. Antonov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; A.I. Volskiy, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Machine Building Department; executives of the USSR Gosplan, union republic Communist Party Central Committees and party kraykoms and obkoms, and leaders of a number of ministries and departments.

Antonov at Ministry Meeting

PM181103 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 18 Feb 83 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Sector's Tasks"]

[Excerpts] An expanded session of the Ministry of the Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry collegium was held yesterday in Moscow. The minister, B.V. Balmont, delivered a report on the results of the sector's work in 1982, the tasks to fulfill the plan in the light of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum, and the recommendations voiced by Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, during his visit to Moscow's Sergo Ordzhonikidze machine tool building plant.

The keynote speaker and those who took part in the discussion analyzed the state of affairs in the most important avenues of the sector's development and outlined specific measures for utilizing internal reserves to improve work. Special attention was paid to strengthening delivery discipline.

Taking part in the collegium's session were A.K. Antonov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; A.A. Rusanov, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Machine Building Department; and leaders of a number of ministries and departments.

Aliyev Health Ministry Meeting Speech

LD251912 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] In Moscow today, an extended meeting of the collegium of the USSR Ministry of Health discussed health care tasks in the light of the decisions taken at the November (1981) CPSU Central Committee Plenum, and the statements and conclusions contained in the speech made at the plenum by Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. Comrade Burenkov, USSR Minister of Health, presented a report. Much attention was given to the further improvement of preventive work; raising the level of medical services and medicinal assistance to the population; expanding the network of health care institutions and their supply with medical technology; and the wider participation of medical care bodies in environmental protection.

The collegium meeting was addressed by Comrade Aliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

Leaders Address Study Course

PM221053 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Feb 83 First Edition p 2

[Unattributed report: "Cadres' Study"]

[Text] Gorispolkom chairmen of republic, kray and oblast centers have completed a course of study.

The course was offered by the CPSU Central Committee's Academy of Social Sciences Institute for improving the qualifications of leading party and Soviet cadres. For a month they studied topical questions of the theory and practice of communist building, the economic policy and international activity of the CPSU and the Soviet state, questions of soviet building and the improvement of the style of work of the soviets and their executive organs.

The students were addressed by V.V. Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; I.T. Novikov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Gosstroy; CPSU Central Committee Department Chairman K.S. Simonov and V.P. Yakovlev; CPSU Central Committee Deputy Department Chairman I.K. Kapustyan and P,K. Luchinskiy; USSR Procurator General A.M. Rekunkov; USSR Ministers S.P. Burenkov and M.A. Prokofyev; G.N. Fomin, chairman of the USSR Gosstroy's State Committee for Civil Construction and Architecture; other leading workers from ministries and departments, and CPSU Central Committee Academy of Social Sciences professors.

During the course great attention was paid to questions of improving the soviets' mass organizational work and intensifying their role in ensuring the cities' comprehensive economic and social development, raising social production efficiency, consolidating executive and labor discipline, improving housing and cultural and consumer services construction, municipal services, trade and health care, and other questions connected with the gorispolkoms' activities.

Reports on these questions were delivered to those attending by V.F. Promyslov, chairman of Moscow Gorispolkom; L.N. Zaykov, chairman of Leningrad Gorispolkom; F.T. Sarkisyan, chairman of the Armenian SSR Council of Ministers; F.V. Sultanov, chairman of the Bashkir ASSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; T.A. Alimov, chairman of Tashkent Oblispolkom, and A.A. Mekhrentsev, chairman of Sverdlovsk Oblispolkom.

The students were acquainted with the activity of the Moscow Rayispolkoms and the achievements in civic construction at the USSR exhibition of national economic achievements, and visited a number of the city's enterprises, organizations and institutions. They had meetings at the Moscow City Soviet and IZVESTIYA's editorial offices.

At seminar classes the students exchanged experience of work to implement the decisions of the 26th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee May and November (1982) Plenums.

Leaders Sign Mitskevich Obituary

PM250921 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Feb 83 Second Edition p 3

[Obituary of Vladimir Fedorovich Mitskevich]

[Excerpts] Vladimir Fedorovich Mitskevich, member of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission, deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet, first deputy chairman of the Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers and member of the CPSU since 1944, died 16 February 1983 after a serious illness.

V.F. Mitskevich was born 21 January 1920 in the village of Yurevichi in Kalinkovichskiy Rayon, Gomel Oblast.

V.V. Kuznetsov, I.V. Kapitonov, M.V. Zimyanin, G.F. Sizov, A.P. Shitikov, V.P. Ruben, T.N. Menteshashvili, N.N. Slyunkov, A.N. Akesnov, V.C. Baluyev, V.I. Brovikov, N.I. Dementey, Ye.F. Ivanovskiy, Yu.B. Kolokolov, A.T. Kuzmin, M.I. Lagin, V.A. Mikulich, N.N. Polozov, I.Ye. Polyakov, L.S. Firisanov, Yu.M. Khusainov, I.F. Yakushev, V.Ye. Lobanok, N.L. Snezhkova, V.P. Shaplyko, L.G. Kletskov, A.A. Malofeyev, V.V. Prishchepchik, Ye.Ye. Sokolov, S.M. Shabashov, D.A. Danilov, M.V. Kovalev, V.I. Kritskiy, S.A. Pilotovich and V.V. Batura.

Kuznetsov Presents Awards

LD242357 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 24 Feb 83

[Text] On 24 February in the Kremlin, Comrade Kutnetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, on 24 February in the Kremlin presented distinguished awards of the homeland to a group of people who are active in science; literature and art, to staff workers of a number of ministries and departments; and to military chiefs.

Order of Lenin and the Hammer and Sickle gold medals of Heroes of Socialist Labor were received by Blanter, the composer; and (Geychenko), director of the Pushkin state museum reserve at the village of Mikhaylovskoye in Pskov Oblast; Army General Beloborodov received the Order of Lenin.

Orders of the October Revolution were awarded to academician Kirillin and Tolstikov, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Hydrometeorology and Environamental Control. Orders of the Red Labor Banner and Friendship Among Peoples were also presented. A scroll conferring the honorary title of People's Artist of the USSR was received by (Yevstigneyev), an actor at the Moscow Academic Arts Theater.

On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Soviet Government, Comrade Kuznetsov cordially congratulated the recipients of the awards and wished them fresh success in their work for the good of the socialist homeland.

Demichev Addresses Cultural Workers

LD281429 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 28 Feb 83

[Text] An expanded session of the collegium of the USSR Ministry of Culture and the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Cultural Workers' Trade Union was held today; The ministers of culture of the union republics as well as the heads of institutions, the arts and the creative unions participated.

Comrade Demichev, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Minister of Culture, delivered a report on the results of last year's work and on the tasks for this year. An analysis was made of the development processes of Soviet culture and art, and the tasks for increasing their role in shaping communist social relations were outlined.

Demichev Attends Writer's Soiree

LD230550 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0300 GMT 22 Feb 83

[Text] A soiree which took place on Monday in Moscow was devoted to the 200th anniversary of the birth of (Zalili), a classic writer in Turkmen literature. Present at the soiree were Comrade Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture; Comrade Gapurov, first secretary of the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee; and literary and artistic figures.

Shevardnadze at Georgian Party Meeting

LD211550 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 20 Feb 83

[Text] The plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Georgia discussed the activity of the Bureau and Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the republic for the last year and the tasks for further perfecting style and methods of party work in the light of the demands of the November plenum of the CPSU Central Committee.

Definite paths were defined for attaining high final results in the economy, and further development in the republic's social, public and political life. Comrade Shevardnadze, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Georgia, spoke at the plenum.

NEW LITHUANIAN SSR LEADER APPOINTMENTS ANNOUNCED

Minister of Education

WA281030 [Editorial Report] Vilnyus SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian on 1 February carries on page 2 a 15-word announcement on the appointment of Valentinas Pyatrovich Spurga as the Lithuanian SSR minister of education.

Raykom Secretary Named

WA251300 Vilnyus SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian 29 Jan 83 p 1

[ELTA report: "Party Raykom Plenum"]

[Text] A plenum of the Lithuanian Communist Party Ukmergskiy Raykom was held on 28 January and considered an organizational question. The plenum freed A. Ridulis from the duties of party raykom first secretary in connection with his transfer to other work. R. Pyatrushkyavichyus, inspector of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee Party-Organizational Work Department, was elected first secretary of the Lithuanian Communist Party Ukmergskiy Raykom.

V. Kardamavichyus, head of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee Party-Organizational Work Department took part in the work of the plenum.

DER SPIEGEL INTERVIEWS KGB DEFECTOR LEVCHENKO

DW171409 Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 15 Feb 83 pp 122-133

[Interview with former KGB Major Stanislav Levchenko, who defected to the West in 1979, by DER SPIEGEL editors Heinz P. Lohfeldt and Fritjof Meyer in Washington; date not given]

[Excerpts] SPIEGEL: Did you learn Japanese at Moscow University?

Levchenko: Yes. After my final examination, I worked for about a year at the fishery and oceanographic research institute. Then the CPSU International Department showed an interest in me and offered me a job as secretary and interpreter for the Moscow correspondent of the party organ of the Japanese Communist Party. In this position I was to help this journalist meet with Soviet citizens, to maintain connections between him and the CPSU International Department, and at the same time to keep a check on his political views and report on everything he did.

SPIEGEL: With whom did you deal in the CPSU International Department?

Levchenko: With Mr Romanov, a leading official, and with Mr Kovalenko, who has subsequently become a deputy chief of the International Department.

SPIEGEL: What do you think of Kovalenko?

Levchenko: He is one of those aggressive party functionaries whose opinions have not changed since Stalin's days. He is a hardliner; but he is very energetic and very competent, speaks excellent Japanese and is without a doubt one of the Soviet Union's top experts on Japan. He is also dangerous.

SPIEGEL; Did you ever meet Vadim Zagladin, first deputy chief of the department?

Levchenko: Who could say he had never met him? Zagladin is one of the two people who keep the whole outfit going, one of the department's outstanding brains. He specializes mainly in European problems -- in active Soviet measures or open Soviet propaganda campaigns in Europe. Such a man has to be damned intelligent because without his ideas or without his agreement to certain ideas from other people or groups, the Soviets wouldn't have achieved the successes they have in Europe. The credit for this belongs only to Zagladin. Since he is younger than his superior, Boris Ponomarev, it is quite possible that he will succeed him some day.

SPIEGEL: Is he a dove or a hawk?

Levchenko: It is very difficult to use such labels. It can certainly be said, however, that some of the leading functionaries are somewhat more moderate and flexible than he is.

SPIEGEL: As a KGB major at the time, did you have any contact with Army General Andropov, the head of the entire outfit?

Levchenko: I had no personal or official contact with him because the office of the KGB First Main Administration is located some distance from headquarters...

SPIEGEL: ...from the Lubyanka Prison in the heart of Moscow where Andropov was working at that time.

Levchenko: Our new building is located outside Moscow, some 30 km from the city center, close to Teplyi Stan.

SPIEGEL: In any case you have worked under Andropov...

Levchenko: When I belonged to the KGB, Andropov more or less tried to remain in the background. In other words, the approximately 200,000 KGB officers and soldiers knew that he existed, but that they couldn't get close to him.

SPIEGEL: He was someone running things from behind the scenes?

Levchenko: Exactly. The people you normally saw at conferences, staff meetings or on similar occasions were either his deputies or the chiefs of individual services or departments. He very rarely went to see his people personally.

He is clearly a very cautious man. He was cautious then and he was certainly cautious during the final months as KGB chief. Since he was obviously to replace Brezhnev, he had to be very careful in every respect. This cautious man also played a great role in the balance of power in the Politburo.

SPIEGEL: What kind of a person is he?

Levchenko: He didn't want it to be seen whether he was particularly tough or not. He sent his deputies to take action. They signed the orders and did everything that makes life difficult for officers. He himself didn't concern himself with that. So you can't say whether he was particularly esteemed or not by the officers; he remained in the background.

At the same time, however, he was very interested in international problems, particularly regarding active measures. Almost every KGB resident in larger countries was normally received personally by Andropov before assuming his position.

However, a number of relatively high-ranking officers in the First Main Administration didn't have the impression that Andropov, despite his interest in foreign policy, was really an expert. He simply tried to show his interest, that's all.

SPIEGEL: How did he run the KGB -- firmly or loosely?

Levchenko: He took some measures to improve the flow of intelligence material from foreign KGB residents to KGB Headquarters and the Politburo, and to reduce bureaucracy. He was most certainly directly involved in many cases in the planning of large-scale measures abroad. There is no doubt about that he has a special liking for things like that.

SPIEGEL: Do reports from foreign KGB residents reflect the facts; are they objective or slanted?

Levchenko: The KGB gets more or less reliable information on the most important countries. Therefore I can never agree with certain Western experts on the Soviet Union who say that "the Soviet's simply don't understand how our political system works." They understand very well. Otherwise they wouldn't be in a position to manipulate entire political groupings as they do sometimes.

SPIEGEL: So Andropov ought to be able to get a rather good picture of the West. Can he nevertheless believe in the final victory of socialism?

Levchenko: The drama or the tragedy -- whatever you prefer -- of some Soviet leaders is the fact that one sometimes tends to believe certain things if one is making propaganda all of one's life. The Soviet Union is an expansionist state and whatever happens, whatever information they may read, they read only from the point of view of how they could bring their influence to bear on other fields or maintain their positions if they became insecure some day. They read everything mainly from this point of view.

MOSCOW RESIDENT ACCUSED OF 'ANTISTATE ACTIVITY'

LD281538 Moscow TASS in English 1503 GMT 28 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 28 TASS -- TASS correspondent Sergey Kazakov reports:

The Collegium for Criminal Cases of the Moscow City Court has begun an open session today to hear the criminal case of Veleriy Senderov (age 38), a Moscow resident charged with anti-state activities.

Senderov stands accused of having established criminal contacts with the foreign subversive organisation "NTS" (Russian acronym for the People's Labour Alliance) whose aim is to overthrow the existing Soviet system. He received from the NTS hostile material and distributed it in the USSR. Upon orders from that organisation, he made and sent abroad slanderous documents which were used by foreign subversive organisations for hostile acts against the USSR.

Senderov's criminal activity was found to fall under Part 1 of Article 70 of the criminal code of the Russian Federation.

Presiding over the trial is Vasiliy Romanov; acting as the counsel for the prosecution is Prosecutor Vladimir Golubev; and Vladimir Shafir, member of the Moscow City Bar Association, is the counsel for the defence.

Present in the court room are the defendant's relatives and other citizens.

Witnesses of Senderov's criminal activities have been summoned to court.

MEDVEDEV VIEWS BREZHNEV-ANDROPOV TRANSITION

PM272031 Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 23 Feb 83 p 4

[Soviet dissident Roy Medvedev article: "Dissatisfaction Growing on All Sides"]

[Text] Only a couple of weeks after Brezhnev's death it was clear that the new leadership wanted to show greater firmness and a more intellectual attitude, since firmness and an intellectual approach were what was most obviously lacking in the Brezhnev leadership. Perhaps the firmness has been demonstrated too clearly. The intellectual utterances have been much more scarce.

Brezhnev took delight in the expensive presents he received from foriegn guests and subordinates. Andropov is bound to put an end to this tradition. He will not accept any Cadillacs or Rolls Royces from Western leaders or daggers with diamond-encrusted handles from his subordinates. He will not proudly tell his foreign guests how many million rubles it cost to build his new dacha on the Black Sea. Receptions as rich and lavish as those which dumbfounded Nixon and Kissinger in 1972 will not be given. Andropov's photograph and name will be considerably less common in the press than Brezhnev's was. Already Andropov's name is absent from the signatures under all the greetings to leaders in other countries.

We can hardly expect any improvement in the situation for dissidents. In the last 5 years the pressure on them has grown, and this has led to a situation in which the organized opposition in the country has almost ceased to exist. At present there seems to be no inclination at all to show any liberalism on this point. On the contrary, a further tightening up is probable. The amnesty at the end of December on the occasion of the Soviet Union's 60th anniversary showed this. More people than under the two previous amnesties were released or had their sentences shortened. But despite the fact that the amnesty took place in connection with an important political anniversary, it did not extend to political prisoners or those who could be called "religious prisoners." No political or religious dissidents who only had a few months left to serve in camps or in exile were released. Nor did the amnesty apply to people sentenced for pursuing unlawful occupations [olaga yrkesutoevning] (Article 162 in the Penal code). Through somewhat elastic interpretation the article is often applied to people who in practice have done socially useful work in service and small industries. Instead of legalizing many types of such activity, it is being driven ever further underground. The amnesty law puts murderers and robbers on a par with tramps and beggars; neither category is considered for release under the amnesty. The preparations for various political trials which began during the spring and summer of 1982 have not been broken off. In the very near future several groups of Soviet dissidents belonging to different opposition groups will go on trial.

The emigration of Jews and the emigration of ethnic Germans, Armenians and a few Balts from the Soviet Union has practically ended. Whereas a few years ago several thousand people left the Soviet Union every month, emigration during 1981-82 fell to 150-200 people per month and has fallen even further since 10 November 1982.

At the same time that the traditional dissident movement is experiencing setbacks or is quite simply the in process of ebbing away, dissatisfaction is growing in allstrata of society. The leadership changeover has slowed this process down but not halted it. People are discontented with the deterioration in the food situation in the country and with mismanagement and corruption, which are still rife. The excessively clumsy and blanket methods being used to try to establish strict discipline in the production industries are also causing dissatisfaction. There is therefore nothing to guarantee that the dissident movement will not resurrect itself in other forms in the eighties.

Ideological and cultural questions are not among the new leadership's priorities, and this means little change.

In his speech on the occasion of the Soviet Union's 60th anniversary Yuriy Andropov unexpectedly ignored what are acute historical questions for the Soviet Union and limited himself instead to the problems of Soviet nationalities and foreign policy. However, his statement clearly condemned all forms of primitive nationalism, including Russian nationalism. A number of Western publications have advanced the idea that in the near future Russian nationalism could arise to compensate for the weakening of communist ideology with its internationalist foundations. At the same time people believe for some reason that Russian nationalist groups have some special support within the KGB and among the military elite. These speculations have not been confirmed. It is clear that in a country like the Soviet Union Russian nationalist ideology can only win very limited support and that in its most extreme forms it will be seen in legal terms as an inimical ideology. All the most important nationalities in the country must be represented in the CPSU and the USSR leaderships in the same way that all the national groups resident in the territories of all the different union and autonomous republics must be represented in the republics' leaderships.

Some "excessively critical" productions are at present excluded from Moscow theaters' repertoires. Today historians are finding very few signs of changes in the light cast on events in the recent past. However, it should be pointed out that in the first number of the periodical KOMMUNIST for 1983 Nikita Khrushchev is mentioned three times in an article on the battle of Stalingrad. Georgiy Malenkov is given one mention in a positive context, as the representative of the state defense committee.

An assessment of Leonid Brezhnev's role as statesman and political leader is among the new leadership's most pressing ideological tasks. In actual fact in the first announcements of Brezhnev's death there were already certain changes in the evaluation made of Brezhnev's role in the country's and party's history. The epithet "great" (statesman, champion of peace, and so on) was replaced with the epithet "prominent." There was already indirect criticism of Brezhnev to be noted at the Central Committee's November plenum. There it was said that discipline within production and administration had been weakened and that in the last few years good decisions were made but that these decisions were not implemented in practice. There has been a dramatic decrease in the number of mentions of Brezhnev in the press. His speeches are quoted very rarely.

Immediately after Brezhnev's death the decision was made to immortalize his memory. The city of Naberezhnyye Chelny and a large number of squares, streets, enterprises, educational institutions and ships were named for Brezhnev. But the ceremonies surrounding these decisions have hardly been reported at all in the press. For instance, a short notice under the meaningless headline "To the Prominent Politician" reported -- to cap it all at the very bottom of page 3 in PRAVDA -- that a commemorative plaque had been put up at 26 Kutuzovskiy Prospekt, where Brezhnev's family lived for 30 years.

The periodical NOVYY MIR's January issue published the final sections of Brezhnev's memoirs, "Moldavian Spring," "Cosmic October" and "A Story of Communists." However, the material was not published in other publications with a mass circulation, nor was publication accompanied by any propaganda story. The study in recent years of Brezhnev's "Literary Works" which has gone on at high schools and within the party's education system has today ceased.

We can assume that there will be no open criticism directed against Brezhnev. But we are eye witnesses to a "dismantling" of the Brezhnev cult whose encouragement has been the object of unsuccessful efforts since 1970.

This is the most important change that has taken place in the country and in the Kremlin in the last 100 days. The changes may be relatively few, but in many ways they speak volumes. The almost 20-year-long Brezhnev era is being wound up. A new epoch is now beginning in our country's history -- an epoch about which it is possible today to hear both words of hope and words of apprehension.

MILITARY LEADERS MARK SOVIET ARMY, NAVY DAY

Tolubko Article

PM241021 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 23 Feb 83 First Edition p 1

[Article by Army General V.F. Tolubko, hero of socialist labor and commander in chief of the Strategic Rocket Forces, under the rubric "Today is Soviet Army and Navy Day": "The Ballistic Bayonets Are on Guard"]

[Text] Today our people mark an important holiday, Soviet Army and Navy day. For 65 years now the valiant Armed Forces of the land of the soviets, covered with the glory of victories, have reliably defended its revolutionary gains and the cause of the building of communism.

Working people in towns and villages honor those who, weapon in hand, fought against the enemies for Soviet power, defended the freedom and independence of the socialist motherland in battles against German fascism and Japanese militarism, served and are serving in the Army and Navy and those who have yet to fulfill their military duty.

The 23 February anniversary is an especially solemn occasion in units, on ships and in military garrisons, wherever Soviet soldiers carry out their service.

It is symbolic that the anniversary of the creation of the military organization of the world's first state of workers and peasants has become an all-people's holiday in our country. This is vivid confirmation of the Leninist ideas about the indissoluble unity of the Army and people in a socialist society.

It is a remarkable characteristic of our Armed Forces that, honorably performing their historic mission as the reliable defender of the interests of working people and their socialist gains, they play an enormous role in the society of mature socialism as a school of ideological tempering, professional training, endurance and discipline for the young generation of the builders of communism.

The fact that the great Lenin and the Communist Party were the founders and organizers of our Army is the most imortant source of its strength, might and invincibility. The CPSU's leadership of the Armed Forces is the very foundation of Soviet military building.

The heroic history of the Soviet Army and Navy is a chronicle of immortal heroic deeds accomplished by our people in the name of the great motherland. It spans a period from the battles against the interventionists and White Guards to the rout of the Hitlerite Wehrmacht and Japanese militarism, from improvised machine gun carriers to the modern missile systems.

This year this jubilee is significant because it coincides with the 40th anniversary of the outstanding victories by Soviet troops on the battlefields of the Great Patriotic War. First and foremost among them is the rout of the fascist troops at Stalingrad. It marked the beginning of a radical turning point in the entire course of the world war. No vain attempts whatsoever by the bourgeois falsifiers of history can belittle the significance of our victory at the ramparts of the Volga bastion.

The missile troops have units which participated in this historic battle. The names of Deputy Junior Political Officer Petr Gutchenko and Junior Lieutenant Aleksandr Pokalchuk are called at every evening's roll call in one of these units. During the battle on the approaches to Stalingrad they sacrificed their lives to ensure the fulfillment of combat orders and saved the lives of their comrades.

Today's generation of missile troops is loyal to the traditions of the frontline soldiers.

They accomplish heroic deeds even in peacetime. Komsomol member engineer Lieutenant Vladimir Vasov, without a moment's thought about his own safety, was the first to rush to correct a fault in equipment that could have resulted in the death of soldiers and officers at the launching pad. He prevented a disaster at the cost of his life. A Moscow street has been named for the hero.

It is possible to cite many other examples of the heroism of our soldiers in peacetime.

Throughout the entire history of our country the Communist Party and the Soviet Government have waged and are waging a persistent struggle for peace. However the Soviet state's peace-loving policy has been always combined with high political vigilance and constant concern for the defense of the socialist fatherland. Today also the Soviet Union is forced to maintain its defense, army and navy at the necessary level. This is demanded by the present-day international situation.

The aggressive circles of imperialist states, primarily the United States, are building up their military preparations on an unprecedented scale, fanning armed conflicts in different party of the world and preparing for a nuclear war.

The peace initiatives of the Soviet state and the socialist community countries do not find the requisite response in the Western countries. "But let nobody labor under a delusion," Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, said at the festive joint session of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet and RSFSR Supreme Soviet on 21 December 1982. "We will never allow our security and the security of our allies to be threatened."

The Soviet Armed Forces now constitute a powerful factor for peace and security and a reliable instrument for curbing aggressive forces. Thanks to the constant concern of the CPSU, the Soviet Government and our people, they have at their disposal everything they need to accomplish the tasks assigned to them.

Army and Navy servicemen consider it their foremost duty to labor persistently to maintain the combat readiness of units and ships at the highest level.

The strategic missile troops vigilantly carry out their duties within the unified combat formation of the armed defenders of our socialist motherland. They are equipped with the most modern combat material and have at their disposal highly trained and ideologically tempered personnel devoted to the party, the people and the ideals of communism.

Almost all missile troops now have higher or secondary education. The units and subunits are headed by experienced and qualified commanding officers. About 80 percent of officers have higher command and engineering education, and over 90 percent of them are class specialists with higher qualifications, true masters of military work. The political workers have proved themselves to be skillful educators.

For over two decades now the positions of our units and subunits have echoed to the strict words of the combat command: "On permanent combat guard in defense of our motherland, the USSR!"

To be on permanent combat guard duty is to fulfill an especially important combat order. It demands from each unit member maximum concentration, unflagging attention, supreme vigilance and high standards of technical knowledge and military skills.

The entire life and activity of units and subunits are subordinated to the task of ensuring that the standard of missile troops' combat training is always in line with these high demands.

It is well known that people are not born but become soldiers. Commanding officers, political workers and party and Komsomol organizations are doing everything to achieve this.

Intense combat training is in progress among the troops. The socialist competition under the slogan "Raise Vigilance and Reliably Guarantee the Motherland's Security" is spreading daily. The initiators of this patriotic movement among the troops -- the personnel of the missile unit commanded by Lieutenant Colonel A. Pavlov -- are in its vanguard. At a recent inspection this military collective demonstrated high standards of combat training and honorably fulfilled all the tasks set them. There are quite a few such units in our Armed Forces.

Party and Komsomol organizations are a powerful mobilizing force. They work right in the midst of servicemen and actively contribute to the effective and high-quality fulfillment of tasks set for units and subunits.

Communists and Komsomol members cement troop collectives and their personal examples inspires the troops to reach new frontiers in combat perfection.

Ideological and political education work is being actively carried out. The main task here is the propagandization and study of the decisions the 26th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet and RSFSR Supreme Soviet on the 60th anniversary of the foundation of the USSR. This makes it possible to most effectively cultivate in each soldier a sense of personal responsibility for the high standard of combat readiness in units and subunits.

Excellent conditions have also been created for the personnel's leisure. Active work is done by officers' houses, soldiers' clubs and sports complexes. Amateur artistic activities and sports have developed in units and subunits.

Army and Navy servicemen are greeting the 65th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces with new achievements in combat and political training. They are deeply aware of the entire complexity of today's international situation, manifest the highest vigilance and are persistently mastering military matters.

Rallied closely around the Communist Party an in fraternal alliance with the armies of the other socialist community countries, Soviet servicemen are reliably safeguarding the security of our motherland and are always ready to do their sacred patriotic and international duty: to deal a crushing rebuff to an aggressor.

Petrov in Bratislava PRAVDA

AU241300 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 23 Feb 83 p 6

[Unidentified APN correspondent's interview with Army General Vasiliy Ivanovich Petrov, USSR deputy minister of defense and commander in chief of the Ground Forces: "Defense of the gains of socialism and of peace" -- place and date of interview not given]

[Text] Army Gen Vasiliy Ivanovich Petrov was born in 1917. In 1939 he joined the army. During the Great Patriotic War he served with the Army in the field. In the postwar period, V.I. Petrov served as commander of the troops of the Red Army Military District in the Far East and as first deputy of the commander in chief of the Ground Forces. Since December 1980 he has been commander in chief of the Ground Forces and USSR deputy minister of defense.

On the occasion of the 65th anniversary of the founding of the USSR Armed Forces, which falls on 23 February, an APN correspondent requested Army Gen V.I. Petrov to speak about their character and role in the present conditions.

[Petrov] The Soviet Army and Navy were established immediately after the formation of the Soviet state.

Their historical task was, and remains, the defense of the working people's revolutionary gains, the defense of the socialist fatherland. As V.I. Lenin said, as long as the threat to the gains of socialism persists we must, on the way to peace, increase our preparedness and vigilance and guard the defense capability of our country and the Red Army like the apple of our eye. In keeping with the Leninist legacy, the Communist Party and the Soviet Government are paying great attention to safeguarding the security of the Soviet Union and consolidating its Armed Forces.

By the end of World War II, in less than 30 years of its existence, the Soviet Army and Navy had spent almost 10 years in combat. This included struggle against domestic counterrevolution and imperialist aggressors, who strove to destroy by military force the land of the soviets. In the Civil War (1918-1920) the young Red Army demonstrated rare combat, moral and political qualities and crushed the well-equipped armies of the White Guards and foreign interventionists. The USSR Armed Forces coped honorably with their great historical mission in combatting fascism. By defeating fascist Germany and militarist Japan, they not only defended their socialist fatherland but, faithful to their internationalist obligations, also significantly contributed to saving the European and world civilization from destruction by the fascist barbarians.

The Soviet people and their army have taught aggressors more than one lesson. Even today imperialists have not given up their plans to destroy socialism with the help of weapons. This is borne out by the large-scale and growing war preparations in the United States and other NATO countries, preparations that increase international tension and the threat of a global nuclear war.

In his report on the 60th anniversary of the USSR Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, defined exactly the Soviet Union's position: We must not permit a nuclear war -- neither small nor large, neither limited nor total. This is called for by the vital interests of all nations.

Under these conditions, the main task of the Soviet Armed Forces is not only to defend the gains of socialism but, at the same time, to protect mankind and its civilization. Because if the imperialists succeeded in unleashing a global nuclear war, civilization could become extinct.

The military might of the USSR and other socialist countries is designed to help the potential aggressors realize what irreparable consequences it would have for them if they attempted an attack. The most important function of the socialist states' armed forces is thus now becoming that of averting war.

[Question] What can be said about the military-technical equipment and the combat potentials of the Soviet Army and Navy?

[Answer] The Soviet Army and Navy today are marked by a high level of technical equipment and military skills and an unyielding moral spirit. The Army and Navy are equipped with everything necessary for implementing their set responsible tasks.

The strategic missile troops have missiles of practically unlimited range and high accuracy, which are capable of carrying nuclear charges of enormous explosive power. The fact that the USSR developed its own nuclear missiles took from the hands of the American imperialists the "nuclear Club," their most important means of political blackmail. As regards the USSR, this was a measure of retaliation that thwarted the plans of U.S. aggressive circles, their dreams about the inviolability of their territory and the possibility of unleashing with impunity a war against the USSR and other socialist countries. Also other qualitative changes in the defense potential of the Soviet state, including improvements in conventional weapons, have had the effect of a cold shower on the lovers of military adventures.

The Ground Forces, too, have experienced a qualitative upswing. They constitute the most numerous segment of the Soviet Armed Forces and have at their disposal diverse complex combat technology and excellent weapons. Their modern tanks and infantry combat vehicles are outstanding in overcoming obstacles, have a long range and are equipped with high-performance weapons. The Ground Forces represent a strike force that is marked by great resilience against weapons of mass destruction and outstanding maneuverability. The basis of the ground troops' strength lies in the operative and tactical missiles. The striking power of the fully motorized, armor-plate-shielded mechanized infantry units has increased.

The air defense troops serve as a reliable protection of the country against enemy air attacks. Their highly effective anti-aircraft missile complexes and supersonic interceptors ensure successful combat against guided flying devices. The USSR Air Force is equipped with supersonic aircraft whose speed exceeds 2 to 2.5 times the speed of sound, that are able to fly at an altitude of 30 or more kilometers and can carry both conventional and nuclear weapons. The Soviet Navy has become an ocean-going, missile-equipped nuclear fleet. The basis of its strength is made up of nuclear submarines, equipped with missiles and modern torpedoes, and of the sea-based, missile-carrying Air Force.

Never in the past have the imperialists succeeded in intimidating the Soviet Union; all the less so will they succeed in this today. The USSR has the necessary persistance and reliable defensive strength.

[Question] What do you think about the role of man and combat technology in modern warfare?

[Answer] The Soviet military doctrine proceeds from the realization that crucial significance in a war is the unity of material and intellectual factors. The significant changes that have occurred in the troops' technical equipment have even reinforced the interdependence of military technology and the Army's combat morale.

Experience shows that high-performance technology and weapons have enhanced even more the role of man, who is becoming the decisive factor in a war. The victory in every war is decided, ultimately, precisely by the spirit of the masses shedding their blood on the battlefield. A man who is convinced about the correctness of the ideals will not retreat before any difficulties and problems. The heroes of the Soviet people in the struggle against the fascist aggressors have clearly confirmed this. We are convincing ourselves of this truth also today, in the everyday life and preparation of troops for combat.

The Soviet soldiers and officers are deeply convinced patriots and internationalists. Like their fathers and grandfathers, they are ready to fulfill to the last iota their military obligations vis-a-vis the fatherland.

The USSR Armed Forces are fulfilling their historic mission to protect socialism and peace shoulder to shoulder with the armies of the socialism member countries of the Warsaw Pact. As follows from the Political Declaration adopted in Prague, the Soviet Union and the socialist states allied with it consistently pit against the militaristic line of imperialism their constructive policy aimed at peace, international security, detente and preventing a nuclear catastrophe. The world is now expecting concrete steps in this direction by the United States and other NATO countries.

Shestopalov Article

PM241543 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 23 Feb 83 p 3

[Article by Marshal of Engineering Troops N. Shestopalov, USSR deputy defense minister for construction and billeting of troops: "Guarding Peace and Socialism"]

[Text] Today the Soviet people and their servicemen are celebrating the 65th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces, which vigilantly stand guard over peace and socialism.

The events in February 1918 will never fade in the memory of the generations. In response to the stirring words of Lenin's appeal "socialist fatherland in danger" of 23 February, meetings of working people were held everywhere in the country. Thousands of volunteers joined the ranks of the Red Army and, bearing arms, embarked on the defense of the gains of Great October. The Soviet Armed Forces matured and strengthened in the struggle against the enemies.

The Communist Party strictly followed V.I. Lenin's instructions: to accompany our steps toward peace with an intensification of all our military readiness, to be on the alert and to cherish the defense capability of our country and our Red Army.

The Soviet Armed Forces were only 23 years old when they took on the assault of the most powerful capitalist Army of the time -- the fascist Wehrmacht. This aggression was prepared by the whole of international imperialist reaction and marked the most large-scale offensive by imperialism's strike forces against socialism. The perfidious enemy had the advantage in men and equipment and had great experience of waging combat operations.

Our path toward victory was long and incredibly difficult. The war, the like of which had never been known in the history of mankind, raged for almost 1,500 days and nights. Representatives of all our country's nations and nationalities fought shoulder to shoulder for the honor, liberty and independence of their motherland.

Military construction workers also made a worthy contribution to the victory over fascist Germany. Together with the engineer troops, they reliably supported the defensive and offensive actions of the Soviet forces, and when the situation demanded they armed themselves and set examples of courage and valor in battle.

Here is just one example. In fall 1942, repulsing an enemy attack, Private Mikhail Panikakha, military construction worker and Komsomol member, was one of the first to set fire to a tank and dash from one trench toward the next. He was preparing to hurl a gasoline bomb into the trench, but at that instant it was hit by a bullet. A living sheet of flame shot toward the tank. In the clouds of black smoke and fire the figure of the hero was lost to sight and a few seconds later there was an explosion.

Now at the foot of the monument in Volgograd there are always fresh flowers. Mikhail Panikakha was one military construction worker from one detachment. Following in his footsteps production targets are fulfilled every year by those who have the honor to inherit and continue the combat and labor glory of their fathers and grandfathers.

During the Great Patriotic War the military construction workers built over 560 defense lines, stretching for a total of almost 50,000 kms, created more than 1 million weapons emplacements, around 22,000 kms of fortified obstacles and 38,500 kms of front-line roads and built 5,920 bridges.

The victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War was of world-historical significance. It resulted in serious changes in the correlation of class forces in the world arena and immeasurably accelerated and deepened the world revolutionary process.

Soviet people have been living and working in conditions of peace for almost 4 decades now. The terrible war wounds are long since healed. The Soviet Union currently produces one-fifth of world industrial output, occupying first place in Europe and second place in the world in terms of this important indicator. These results have been achieved thanks to the selfless labor of the Soviet people and the close cooperation among all the USSR's nations and nationalities.

While exercising leadership of communist building, the party has been forced to show constant concern for strengthening the country's defense capability.

This is because the Soviet people are building the new society in a complex international situation which has been aggravated to an extremely dangerous point through Washington's fault.

The reactionary circles of imperialism, primarily the United States, having set themselves the goal of achieving military superiority over the USSR and the other socialist countries, are stepping up the arms race, intensifying political and ideological sabotage and pushing the world toward nuclear war. In the next 5 years alone the Pentagon's spending will amount to more than $1.6 trillion. This is 500 percent more than U.S. military spending during the whole of World War II. America's European NATO allies are also following the arms race path. Japan is making large-scale militarist preparations.

However, nobody in the past has succeeded and nobody in the present will succeed in intimidating the Soviet Union. It possesses the required endurance and reliable defense might. As Yu.V. Andropov declared in the report "Sixty Years of the USSR," the program for a further arms buildup will not force us to resort to unilateral concessions. We will be forced to respond to the U.S. side's challenge by developing our own weapons systems. We will respond to the MX missiles with a similar missile of our own and to the U.S. long-range cruise missile with our own long-range cruise missile, which is already being tested. "...Let nobody be deceived," he stressed, "we will never allow our security and the security of our allies to be endangered."

Thanks to the concern of the Communist Party and the Soviet people. all branches of the Armed Forces are equipped with modern combat hardware. The strategic missile forces, which are equipped with missiles of virtually unlimited range, form the basis of our defense might. The ground forces have great fire and strike power and a high degree of mobility. The air defense forces possess the most up-to-date combat hardware. The Air Force is equipped with jet, missile-carrying and all-weather aircraft. The ships, nuclear missile submarines and aircraft of our Navy are armed with the latest hardware and weaponry.

But however high the military-technical potential, the chief strength of any Army lies in the people. Soviet servicemen are distinguished by their political maturity, high degree of skill and profound understanding of their patriotic and international duty.

The main efforts of military construction workers are now concentrated on fulfilling the decisions of the 26th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum. Their conscientious and inspired labor is just as necessary for the fatherland as the martial labor of missilemen, tankmen, aviators and sailors. And the higher the results of this work are, the more reliable the defense capability of our motherland will be.

Special attention is being paid to the industrialization and retooling of construction production, the improvement of planning and the intensification of the economic machiner's influence on improving the efficiency and quality of construction work.

Progressive designs and developments executed by our scientific research and design institutes and the advanced experience of civilian construction organizations are being introduced increasingly widely at military construction sites.

In the socialist competition mounted on the initiative of the Odessa Military District military construction workers under the slogan "Work Effectively and to High Quality Standards and Make Maximum Use of Production Reserves," military construction workers are doing everything to fulfill successfully the plan for 1983 and the 5-year plan as a whole.

Military construction workers have made a confident start to the 11th 5-year plan.

A number of military construction organizations and enterprises have been awarded CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU and Komsomol Central Committee Challenge Red Banners for achieving high indicators in the all-union socialist competition to greet fittingly the 60th anniversay of the USSR's formation.

High motherland awards have been awarded to the construction directorates of Odessa and Belorussian Military Districts and the collectives led by Colonel engineers V. Sukhov, Yu. Rossomakhov and V. Dukhin and Soviet Army employee V. Frelov. Officers V. Ogarkov, Yu. Baybikov, N. Dyadichenko, V. Baranov, I. Gordeychuk, A. Vasilyev, Yu. Klimyakhin and many others have been awarded orders and medals of the Soviet Union for success achieved in combat and political training and in fulfilling the capital construction plans.

On the military construction sites the names of the following leaders of financially autonomous teams are well known: Heroes of Socialist Labor I. Savotikov and I. Osin, USSR state prizewinner Yu. Zakharov, RSFSR honored builder N. Maksimov, Sergeants A. Nikitin, G. Kovalskiy and A. Demchenko and others.

Military railroad workers are successfully fulfilling and overfulfilling their plans for the construction of the eastern section of the Baykal-Amur main railroad. Some 1,200 km of rails have already been laid on the 1,500 km of main line.

I would like to put in a good word for the armed forces' veterans. At many of our construction sites they work with the young people as mentors, transmitting to them their knowledge and rich experience and helping to augment the glorious combat and labor traditions of the Army and Navy and of military construction units.

Carrying on the work of the older generations, defending our liberty with arms at the ready, military construction workers together with all Army and Navy servicemen have created a reliable shield for the state -- an obstacle which no aggressor can smash.

The Soviet Armed Forces, which were created 65 years ago, display the highest vigilance. Closely rallied around the Leninist Communist Party and in united combat formation with the allied armies, they will continue to be a reliable guard of the gains of socialism.

At Armed Forces Day Meeting

PM252327 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Feb 83 Second Edition pp 1-3

[Unattributed report: "Ceremonial Meeting in Moscow"]

[Text] The Soviet Army Central Dramatic Theater was gaily bedecked with flags and banners. On the evening of 22 February representatives of Moscow's working people, servicemen from the capital's garrison and Armed Forces' veterans came here to celebrate the Soviet Army and Navy's 65th anniversary.

The ceremonial meeting's presidium was composed of the following: Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR defense minister; L.V. Smirnov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; I.F. Dmitriyev, chief of a CPSU Central Committee section; T.N. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; Academician A.P. Aleksandrov, president to the USSR Academy of Sciences; Col Gen V.M. Chebrikov, chairman of the USSR KGB; USSR Ministers I.S. Silayev, B.P. Bugayev, S.A. Afanasyev, P.S. Pleshakov and M.V. Yegorov; Marshal of the Soviet Union N.V. Ogarkov, chief of the Armed Forces General Staff and USSR first deputy defense minister; Marshal of the Soviet Union V.G. Kulikov, USSR first deputy defense minister; Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov, USSR first deputy defense minister; Army General A.A. Yepishev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; Army General G.K. Tsinev, first deputy chiarman of the USSR KGB; USSR Deputy Defense Ministers Army General V.F. Tolubko, Marshal of Aviation A.I. Koldunov, Chief Marshal of Aviation P.S. Kutakhov, Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union S.G. Gorshkov, Army General S.K. Kurkotkin, Army General V.M. Shabanov, Marshal of Engineer Troops N.F. Shestopalov,

Army General I.N. Shkadov; V.I. Drugov, first deputy chief of a CPSU Central Committee section; Admiral A.I. Sorokin, first deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; Army General S.F. Akhromeyev, first deputy chief of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff; and marshals of categories of troops, generals, admirals, officers, representatives of party, soviet and social organizations, designers of military equipment and weapons, and cosmonauts.

Div Gen Sixto Batista Santano, chief ofthe Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces' Central Political Directorate and vice minister of the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces, was also in the meeting presidium.

The cermonial meeting was opened by B.V. Nikolskiy, secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom.

An honorary presidium comprised of the CPSU Central Committee Politiburo was elected, to tumultuous applause from the meeting.

Hero of Socialist Labor V.I. Koptev, steelworker at the Serp i Molot metallurgicial plant, warmly and cordially welcomed and congratulated the Soviet servicemen on their festive occasion on behalf of the capital's working people, as did D.A Okhromiy, secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee, on behalf of Kosomol members and young people.

Chief Marshal of Aviation P.S. Kutakhov, commander in chief of the Air Force and USSR deputy defense minister, addressed the meeting. He warmly congratulated the assembly and all Armed Forces personnel on Army and Navy day. Soviet servicemen, he emphasized, fulfilling the decisions of the 26th party congress and the subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums, are persistently mastering powerful weaponary and vigilantly carrying out their duty in protecting our motherland's sacred frontiers. The Soviet service expressed filial gratitude to he Communist Party for its comprehensive concern and attention and assured the Central Committee and the Soviet Government of their determination in close combat cooperation with the Warsaw Pact armies to continue to watch vigilantly over the people's peace and security and defend socialism's historic gains.

The meeting participants adopted a greetings letter to the CPSU Central Committee.

After the ceremony a big celebratory concert took place.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA HAILS 'PEOPLE'S HEROIC LABOR'

PM261029 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Feb 83 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Through the People's Heroic Labor"]

[Excerpts] It is 2 years tomorrow since the 26th CPSU Congress opened on 23 February 1981. The whole life, the economic and social development of our society, a mature socialist society, is proceeding under the growing influence of its historic decisions. The congress concretized the party's long-term strategy for the 11th 5-Year Plan period and the eighties as a whole. This strategy is aimed at ensuring that the Soviet people live better with each year that passes, that their labor yields increasingly appreciable results and that our socialist system reveals more fully its humane essence and its creative potential.

Time has fully confirmed the vital force of the congress' ideas and decisions. The main political conclusion to be drawn from the period experienced since is unambiguous: The CPSU is leading our society forward along a firm Leninist course.

Maintaining continuity in policy, the party is consistently implementing the course worked out at the 26th CPSU Congress aimed at the growth of production efficiency and its intensification. This task of immense importance can only be successfully resolved throught the people's selfless labor. "It is now particularly important and necessary," Comrade Yu.V. Andropov emphasizes, "that every working person understands that the plan's fulfillment depends on his labor contribution too and that he properly understands the simple truth that the better we work, the better we will live...."

Nationwide concern for raising labor productivity, organization and discipline is ensuring the further strengthening of the motherland's might and its position in the international arena. The Soviet Union was and remains a reliable bulwark of peace and the peoples' security. It maintains indestrucible loyalty to the peace program for the eighties put forward at the 26th CPSU Congress and subsequently supplemented by new and most important peace initiatives.

But each step along the path of consolidating peace has not been and is not easy as it demands an intense struggle against increasingly active aggressive forces of imperialism, primarily the United States. Washington's foreign policy, its subversive actions against socialist countries and its attempts to achieve military superiority over the USSR have all aggravated the international situation to extremely dangerous limits.

Imperialism's aggressive intrigues force the Soviet state to display constant concern for maintaining its defense capability at the requisite level. Defense requirements are also taken into sufficient account in our national economic plan for the present year. The Soviet people are deeply conscious of the necessity of the measures taken in this respect and by heroic labor are consolidating the motherland's defense capability and providing everything that is necessary for the Armed Forces, which under the party's leadership have taken a new step along the path of development and improvement following the 26th CPSU congress.

For Army and Navy servicemen these have been years of intense military labor and ceaseless struggle to further enhance combat readiness. Major exercises and operational, technical and organizational measures have been carried out that have enhanced Army and Navy combat might. The Sixth All-Army Comference of Primary Party Organization Secretaries was a great event in the life of the Armed Forces.

Our military cadres are persistently resolving the task set by the party: The USSR Armed Forces must be up to the mark in all matters -- equipment, structure and the training standards and methods. They learn to act and to direct troops and the naval forces with regard to the most recent achievements of military science and military art. At present Soviet servicemen are diligently improving their combat skill, strengthening discipline and regulation order and vigorously participating in socialist competition under the slogan "increase vigilance and reliably ensure the motherland's security!"

All Soviet people's live are motivated by the motherland's interests and concern for its further prosperity. They have accomplished a great deal in their implementation of the 26th CPSU Congress' plans. But ahead lie difficult and intense work and vast and complex tasks. They are being tackled and will be resolved through the heroic labor of the whole of our people, who are led by the Leninist party and closely united beneath its banner.